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*"Rummaging in the government's attic"*

Description of document: Department of the Interior (DOI) Emails to or from Heather Swift that contain the word FOIA, July 2017-January 2018

Requested date: 08-January-2018

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Posted date: 15-April-2024

Source of document: Freedom of Information Act Request  
Office of the Secretary (OS)  
MS-7328, MIB  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20240  
Fax: (202) 219-2374  
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# United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Washington, DC 20240

IN REPLY REFER TO:  
7202.4-OS-2018-00521

March 4, 2024

Via email

On January 8, 2018, you filed a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request seeking the following:

I request a copy of each email to or from Heather Swift that contains the word FOIA. You may limit this request to the time frame July 20, 2017 to the present.

Your request was received in the Office of the Secretary FOIA office on January 8, 2018, and assigned control number **OS-2018-00521**. Please cite this number in any future communications with our office regarding your request.

On September 23, 2022, you agreed to exclude attachments to emails and to exclude Weekly Reports to the Secretary.

We are writing today to provide a final response to your request on behalf of the Office of the Secretary. We have attached two (2) files consisting of a total of one thousand and fifty-six (1,056) pages, which are being released to you in part. We reasonably foresee that disclosure would harm an interest protected by one or more of the nine exemptions to the FOIA's general rule of disclosure. Accordingly, two hundred thirty-six (236) pages contain redactions as described below.

## **Exemption 5**

Exemption 5 allows an agency to withhold "inter-agency or intra-agency memorandums or letters which would not be available by law to a party ... in litigation with the agency." 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(5). Exemption 5 therefore incorporates the privileges that protect materials from discovery in litigation, including the deliberative process, attorney work-product, attorney-client, and commercial information privileges. We are withholding fifty (50) pages in part under Exemption 5 because they qualify to be withheld both because they meet the Exemption 5 threshold of being inter-agency or intra-agency and under the deliberative process and attorney-client privileges.

### *Deliberative Process Privilege*

The deliberative process privilege protects the decision-making process of government agencies and encourages the frank exchange of ideas on legal or policy matters by ensuring agencies are not forced to operate in a fishbowl. A number of policy purposes have been attributed to the deliberative process privilege, such as: (1) assuring that subordinates will feel free to provide the decisionmaker with their uninhibited opinions and recommendations; (2) protecting against premature disclosure of proposed policies; and (3) protecting against confusing the issues and misleading the public.

The deliberative process privilege protects materials that are both predecisional and deliberative. The privilege covers records that reflect the give-and-take of the consultative process and may include recommendations, draft documents, proposals, suggestions, and other subjective documents which reflect the personal opinions of the writer rather than the policy of the agency.

The materials that have been withheld under the deliberative process privilege of Exemption 5 are both predecisional and deliberative. They do not contain or represent formal or informal agency policies or decisions. They are the result of frank and open discussions among employees of the Department of the Interior. Their contents have been held confidential by all parties and public dissemination of this information would have a chilling effect on the agency's deliberative processes; expose the agency's decision-making process in such a way as to discourage candid discussion within the agency; and thereby undermine its ability to perform its mandated functions. Furthermore, the release of the drafts of these materials would mislead or confuse the public.

The deliberative process privilege does not apply to records created 25 years or more before the date on which the records were requested.

### *Attorney-Client Privilege*

The attorney-client privilege protects confidential communications between an attorney and his client relating to a legal matter for which the client has sought professional advice and is not limited to the context of litigation. Moreover, although it fundamentally applies to confidential facts divulged by a client to his/her attorney, this privilege also encompasses any opinions given by an attorney to his/her client based upon, and thus reflecting, those facts, as well as communications between attorneys that reflect confidential client-supplied information.

The information that has been withheld under the attorney-client privilege of Exemption 5 constitutes confidential communications between agency attorneys and agency clients, related to legal matters for which the client sought professional legal assistance and services. It also encompasses opinions given by an attorney to his clients based on client-supplied facts. Additionally, the Immediate Office of the Secretary employees who communicated with the attorney regarding this information were clients of the attorney at the time the information was generated and the attorney was acting in his capacity as a lawyer at the time he communicated legal advice. Finally, the Immediate Office of the Secretary has held this information confidential and has not waived the attorney-client privilege.

## **Exemption 6**

We are withholding one hundred eighty-seven (187) pages in part under Exemption 6, which allows an agency to withhold “personnel and medical files and similar files the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.” 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(6).

The phrase “similar files” covers any agency records containing information about a particular individual that can be identified as applying to that individual. To determine whether releasing records containing information about a particular individual would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy, we are required to balance the privacy interest that would be affected by disclosure against any public interest in the information.

Under the FOIA, the only relevant public interest to consider under the exemption is the extent to which the information sought would shed light on an agency’s performance of its statutory duties or otherwise let citizens ‘know what their government is up to.’ The burden is on the requester to establish that disclosure would serve the public interest. When the privacy interest at stake and the public interest in disclosure have been determined, the two competing interests must be weighed against one another to determine which is the greater result of disclosure: the harm to personal privacy or the benefit to the public. The purposes for which the request for information is made do not impact this balancing test, as a release of information requested under the FOIA constitutes a release to the general public.

The information that has been withheld under Exemption 6 consists of personal information, personal emails, and personal phone numbers, and we have determined that the individuals to whom this information pertains have a substantial privacy interest in withholding it. Additionally, we have determined that the disclosure of this information would shed little or no light on the performance of the agency’s statutory duties. Because the harm to personal privacy is greater than whatever public interest may be served by disclosure, release of the information would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of the privacy of these individuals, and we are withholding it under Exemption 6.

## **Exemption 7**

Exemption 7 protects from disclosure “records or information compiled for law enforcement purposes” if the records fall within one or more of six specific bases for withholding set forth in subparts (A) through (F). 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(7)(A)-(F). We are withholding three (3) pages in part under Exemption 7 because they are protected under the following subparts:

### *7(A)*

Exemption 7(A) protects law enforcement records if their release could reasonably be expected to interfere with enforcement proceedings. For the materials that have been withheld under 7(A), we have determined they are law enforcement records for a pending or prospective investigation and releasing them could reasonably be expected to interfere with enforcement proceedings because their premature release could hinder the government’s ability to further control and shape the

investigation and enable targets of the investigation to elude detection; create defenses; or suppress, fabricate, or tamper with evidence.

### 7(C)

Exemption 7(C) protects law enforcement records if their release could reasonably be expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy. It is regularly applied to withhold references to individuals in law enforcement files. For the materials that have been withheld under 7(C), we have determined that releasing them would constitute an unwarranted invasion of privacy because they identify individuals referenced in law enforcement records and the release of this information would not shed light on an agency's performance of its statutory duties.

For your information, Congress excluded three discrete categories of law enforcement and national security records from the requirements of FOIA. See 5 U.S.C. 552(c). This response is limited to those records that are subject to the requirements of FOIA. This is a standard notification that is given to all our requesters and should not be taken as an indication that excluded records do, or do not, exist.

Cristina Marrero Rodriguez, FOIA Support Team Lead is responsible for this decision. Cindy Cafaro, Attorney-Adviser in the Office of the Solicitor, was consulted.

### Fees

We do not bill requesters for FOIA processing fees when their fees are less than \$50.00, because the cost of collection would be greater than the fee collected. See [43 C.F.R. § 2.37\(g\)](#). Therefore, there is no billable fee for the processing of this request.

### Appeals

You may appeal this response to the Department's FOIA/Privacy Act Appeals Officer. If you choose to appeal, the FOIA/Privacy Act Appeals Officer must receive your FOIA appeal **no later than 90 workdays** from the date of this final response. Appeals arriving or delivered after 5 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday, will be deemed received on the next workday.

**Your appeal must be made in writing.** You may submit your appeal and accompanying materials to the FOIA/Privacy Act Appeals Officer by mail, courier service, fax, or email. All communications concerning your appeal should be clearly marked with the words: "FREEDOM OF INFORMATION APPEAL." You must include an explanation of why you believe this response is in error. You must also include with your appeal copies of all correspondence between you and the Office of the Secretary concerning your FOIA request, including your original FOIA request and this response. Failure to include with your appeal all correspondence between you and the Office of the Secretary will result in the Department's rejection of your appeal, unless the FOIA/Privacy Act Appeals Officer determines (in the FOIA/Privacy Act Appeals Officer's sole discretion) that good cause exists to accept the defective appeal.

Please include your name and daytime telephone number (or the name and telephone number of an appropriate contact), email address, and fax number (if available) in case the FOIA/Privacy Act Appeals Officer needs additional information or clarification of your appeal.

*DOI FOIA/Privacy Act Appeals Office Contact Information*

Attn: FOIA/Privacy Act Appeals Office  
Department of the Interior  
Office of the Solicitor  
1849 C Street, N.W.  
MS-6556 MIB  
Washington, DC 20240  
Telephone: (202) 208-5339  
Fax: (202) 208-6677  
Email: [FOIA.Appeals@sol.doi.gov](mailto:FOIA.Appeals@sol.doi.gov)

The 2007 FOIA amendments created the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) to offer mediation services to resolve disputes between FOIA requesters and Federal agencies as a non-exclusive alternative to litigation. Using OGIS services does not affect your right to pursue litigation. You may contact OGIS in any of the following ways:

Office of Government Information Services  
National Archives and Records Administration  
8601 Adelphi Road - OGIS  
College Park, MD 20740-6001  
E-mail: [ogis@nara.gov](mailto:ogis@nara.gov)  
Web: <https://www.archives.gov/ogis>  
Telephone: 202-741-5770  
Fax: 202-741-5769  
Toll-free: 1-877-684-6448

Please note that using OGIS services does not affect the timing of filing an appeal with the Department's FOIA & Privacy Act Appeals Officer.

If you have any questions about our response to your request, you may contact me by email at [doifoiасupportteam@sol.doi.gov](mailto:doifoiасupportteam@sol.doi.gov).

Contact information for the Department's FOIA Public Liaison, who you may also seek dispute resolution services from, is available at <https://www.doi.gov/foia/foiacenter>.

Sincerely,

CRISTINA MARRERO  
RODRIGUEZ

Digitally signed by CRISTINA  
MARRERO RODRIGUEZ  
Date: 2024.03.04 09:50:57  
-05'00'

Cristina Marrero Rodriguez  
FOIA Support Team Lead

**To:** heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** NPS FOIA (via Google Drive)  
**Sent:** 2017-12-13T15:06:38-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** \*\*\*PENDING RELEASE\*\*\* 18-162 Dillon GLAC Zinke visit - Invitation to collaborate  
**Received:** 2017-12-13T15:06:47-05:00

npsfoia@nps.gov has invited you to **contribute to** the following shared folder:

**\*\*\*PENDING RELEASE\*\*\* 18-162 Dillon GLAC Zinke visit**

Hi Heather,

As requested I'm sharing the materials for this FOIA request with you. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Charis Wilson, Ph.D., CRM  
NPS FOIA Officer  
303-969-2959

[Open](#)

Google Drive: Have all your files within reach from any device.

Google Inc. 1600 Amphitheatre Parkway, Mountain View, CA 94043, USA

**To:** Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]; Russell Newell[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov]; Laura Rigas[Laura\_Rigas@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Hinson, Alex  
**Sent:** 2017-09-13T15:44:34-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** \*DRAFT DOI Daily Comms  
**Received:** 2017-09-13T15:44:42-04:00  
[WH Daily comms update 9-13.docx](#)

**INTERIOR**  
**WASHINGTON**  
9/13/2017

DAILY COMMUNICATIONS REPORT

TO: White House Cabinet Affairs Communications

FROM: Heather Swift & Laura Rigas

SUBJECT: Communications Update

**TV Hits:**

- [Fox Business: Secretary Zinke joins Stuart Varney to discuss Hurricanes and More](#)

**Press Inquiries:**

- Many small inquiries.
- ABC News: (Stephanie Ebbs)—**REQUEST**-- Can you all share any practical examples of how the secretary's memorandum on addressing wildfires might be implemented? Are there specific policies or actions that bureau managers have been asking to implement more aggressively? How will this change their day-to-day activities?--**RESPONSE**--If I may respond on background with some background -- I don't know your level of experience with wildfires so I'm going to get pretty general here. Think of when you start a campfire. You have your large healthy logs on top but you also have your bed of twigs and brush at the bottom to get the fire started. Once that's lit and the fire really heats up, then the big logs catch and you have a full fledged fire that will consume anything you feed it. The buildup of fuels in the forest acts the same way. It creates a situation that is ripe for fires to grow in temperature, intensity and size very quickly, catching those big healthy trees on fire more quickly... and thus spreading to homes, lodges, etc. So what is at the heart of this is overgrown forests. When forests are not adequately managed and dead/dying/burnt trees are not thinned, these fuels as well as thick underbrush (and little vegetation that springs up after wildfires because a lot of land burns over and over because half burnt logs are not removed) build up over time. This creates a situation that a lot of people in the west colloquially call a tinderbox because it is so vulnerable. Secretary Zinke's directive applies to all land management bureaus and services within the department that have burnable vegetation - but that includes the National Park Service



which is having a historically bad fire season, the BLM which had the largest fire of the season at 275k acres, and the USFWS. (US Forest Service is USDA) The Trump Administration is taking aggressive and preemptive measures to prevent wildfires and combat their spread through active fuels management versus the previous administration's more "naturalist" approach. The naturalist approach allowed fuels to build up and forests to thicken, making them more prone to wildfires that are more difficult and dangerous to suppress. The directive also orders bureaus and services to protect structures and assets like visitors centers, lodges, and infrastructure by thinning the urban-wildland interface, which is the area where forests butt up against man made structures and settlements. So back to your question about practical examples....One easy example is mechanical thinning and burns at Sequoia-Kings Canyon National Park. They have fire crews that work in the early spring to thin dead and dying timber and burn the under brush to protect against fire. They also thin around structures as a defense in case a fire breaks out, it doesn't have a lot of wood to burn and make its way to the structure (lodges, visitors centers, etc). Yosemite also does this. This order does not allow commercial timber harvests in National Parks. It does however order preemptive fuels management, like what already happens in parks like Sequoia Kings Canyon National Park. I've CCed Jeremy Barnum from NPS who can get you in touch with them. Here's photos of the Secretary joining the fire crew in early April. You could also talk to the DOI Office of Wildland Fire director Brian Rice who has been with BIA, BLM and US Forest Service fire crews. He can give you a whole host of practical examples and why it's important for firefighting and firefighter safety. His public affairs person, Gigi is also CCed.

- The Trace: (Mike Spies) –**REQUEST**-- I'm working on a story about Susan LaPierre's appointment to the National Park Foundation's board of directors. Today I received a dozen emails (through FOIA) from the Interior Department concerning her appointment, and I'd like to discuss them with you—**RESPONSE**-- The National Park Foundation is an organization focused on raising private funds to directly support America's national parks. The Board of Directors oversees the National Park Foundation operations, philanthropic support, corporate partnerships and programmatic work in national parks. Board members represent a diverse cross-section of conservation, preservation, history, corporate and public service. The Secretary nominated Mrs. LaPierre to the board of the National Park Foundation on April 27 due to her extensive experience as a fundraiser and advocate for youth and women.

### **Top Stories**

- **E&E News:** [Zinke orders 'aggressive' tree, brush cutting to prevent fires](#)
- **CBS News:** [More damaging, more costly" wildfires scorch parts of western U.S. and Canada](#)
- **The Virgin Islands Consortium:** [HERE'S HOW THE U.S. DEPT. OF INTERIOR AND FEDERAL GOVERNMENT HAVE BEEN HELPING USVI POST IRMA](#)
- **Huffington Post:** [Hillary Clinton To Ryan Zinke: 'I'm Not Actually The Antichrist'](#)

### **Top Issues and Accomplishments**

- Interior continues to support all Hurricane Harvey and Hurricane Irma efforts. All bureaus are executing their emergency plans and assisting in Hurricane relief.

- Interior sent a press release regarding the department's effort to take aggressive action against wildfires. The press release can be seen [HERE](#).
- Today, Interior announced that John Tahsuda III will serve as the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs. The press release can be seen [HERE](#).
- Tonight, Secretary Zinke will speak at the Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation Banquet.
- This week, DOI will announce \$94.3 million to be distributed from the Land and Water Conservation Fund to all 50 states and territories.

###

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Alex Hinson

Deputy Press Secretary  
Department of the Interior  
C: 202-641-5381

**To:** Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]; Russell Newell[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov]; Laura Rigas[Laura\_Rigas@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Hinson, Alex  
**Sent:** 2017-11-03T16:38:21-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** \*DRAFT DOI Daily Report  
**Received:** 2017-11-03T16:38:29-04:00  
[WH Daily Comms update 11-3.docx](#)

**INTERIOR**  
**WASHINGTON**  
11/3/2017

DAILY COMMUNICATIONS REPORT

TO: White House Cabinet Affairs Communications

FROM: Department of the Interior Communications Team

SUBJECT: Communications Update

**Press Inquiries:**

- Small inquiries and logistical inquiries.
- **\*Multiple Inquiries on EITI\*** Questions are being directed to the State Department.
- **\*Multiple Inquiries\*** Six environmental groups sued Interior and the White House Council on Environmental Quality over FOIA requests the groups said Interior and the WH CEQ aren't honoring.—**RESPONSE**-- Please contact DOJ for any questions regarding litigation.
- **New York Times:** (Lisa Friedman)—**REQUEST**— Does Interior have any comment on the National Climate Assessment Volume 1 out today? The main finding is that humans have been the dominant cause of atmospheric and ocean warming over the past half century, and that climate change poses an urgent risk to U.S. communities and economic sectors. Does Mr. Zinke accept the finding scientists from 13 government agencies including DOI? —**RESPONSE**— Please direct questions about the report to NOAA.
- **E&E News:** (Kellie Lunney)—**REQUEST**-- Wanted to see if Interior had any comment on Senate and House Democrats Oppose Delay of BLM Waste Prevention Rule, Urge Zinke to Save Taxpayer Money and Protect Public Health . Can take something up until about 3:45—**RESPONSE**—“As part of President Trump's America-First Energy Strategy and executive order, the Department has reviewed and flagged the Waste Prevention rule as one we will suspend, revise or rescind given its significant regulatory burden that encumbers American energy production, economic growth and job creation. The rule is expected to have real and harmful impacts on onshore energy development and could impact state and local jobs and revenue. Small independent oil and gas

producers in states like North Dakota, Colorado and New Mexico, which account for a substantial portion of our nation's energy wealth, could be hit the hardest."

### **Top Stories**

- **THE HILL:** [Greens sue Trump for national monument documents](#)
- **E&E News:** [Groups sue for public records on Zinke review](#)
- **Helena Independent Record (MT):** [Politicians tarnish Montana's image](#)

### **Top Issues and Accomplishments**

- Interior continues to support all Hurricane Harvey, Hurricane Irma, Hurricane Maria, and Hurricane Nate efforts. All bureaus are executing their emergency plans and assisting in Hurricane relief.
- Monday, DOI will announce a new FACA board related to public/private partnerships.
- Secretary Zinke is out on personal leave at his home in Montana. The Secretary will return on Monday.

###

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Alex Hinson

Deputy Press Secretary  
Department of the Interior

**To:** Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]; Eli Nachmany[eli\_nachmany@ios.doi.gov]; Russell Newell[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Hinson, Alex  
**Sent:** 2017-09-26T09:49:14-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** \*DRAFT DOI Daily Report  
**Received:** 2017-09-26T09:49:19-04:00

## INTERIOR DAILY COMMUNICATIONS REPORT

### NEWS TO SHARE:

#### [Bloomberg: U.S., Mexico on Verge of New Colorado River Water Pact](#)

*“An agreement amending the longstanding treaty between the U.S. and Mexico on management of the Colorado River will continue the practice of water shortage sharing, but also fund new conservation and environmental programs, and aim to reduce the risk of ruinous drought ....The deal shows how both countries consider water important enough to set it apart from tensions that have flared during President Donald Trump’s administration over immigration and building a border wall.”*

#### [Breitbart: Interior Sec. Zinke Designates October National Hunting and Fishing Month](#)

*“The designation of National Hunting and Fishing month is but the latest pro-hunting / fishing / conservation moves taken by Zinke. On September 15, Breitbart News reported that Zinke issued Order No. 3356, which “mandates the Department to submit reports, upon the Secretary’s approval, to the Wildlife and Hunting Heritage Conservation Council and the Sport Fishing and Boating Partnership Council for their respective responses and recommendations.”*

### Correcting the Record:

#### [Associated Press: Zinke: One-Third of Interior Employees Not Loyal to Trump](#)

*“Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke said Monday that nearly one-third of employees at his department are not loyal to him and President Donald Trump, adding that he is working to change the department's regulatory culture to be more business friendly. Zinke, a former Navy SEAL, said he knew when he took over the 70,000 -employee department in March that, "I got 30 percent of the crew that's not loyal to the flag." In a speech to an oil industry group, Zinke compared Interior to a pirate ship that captures "a prized ship at sea and only the captain and the first mate row over" to finish the mission. "We do have good people" at Interior, he said, "but the direction has to be clear and you've got to hold people accountable." Zinke's comments echo complaints by some White House allies that a permanent, "deep state" in Washington has sabotaged Trump's efforts to remake the government.”*

#### TALKING POINTS

- **GUIDANCE PLEASE!!**

#### [Washington Examiner: Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke: Fracking is proof 'God's got a good sense of humor and he loves us'](#)

*“Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke referred to the oil drilling method known as hydraulic fracturing, or fracking, as proof of divine love, as well as humor. "Fracking is proof that God's got a good sense of humor and he loves us," Zinke told members of the National Petroleum Council, a federal advisory panel to the Interior and Energy departments.*

#### TALKING POINTS

- Energy development and dominance is a top priority to the Trump administration.

- The administration will do what makes the most sense and devise a plan to extract resources.
- We will do it in a way that both respects the environment and traditional uses of the land as well as maintains subsistence hunting and fishing access.

**THE HILL: Park Service report: Obama water bottle sales ban had ‘significant’ benefits**

*“An internal National Park Service (NPS) staff report concluded that an Obama administration effort to ban sales of bottled water at some parks had “significant environmental benefits.” The report was released more than a month after the NPS rescinded the policy, which had been opposed by the bottled water industry and some Republicans. In the report prepared in May, NPS staff estimated that on an annual basis, at least 1.32 million disposable plastic water bottles, and up to 2.01 million, were not purchased due to the 2011 policy.” In its commitment to providing a safe and world-class visitor experience, the National Park Service is discontinuing Policy Memorandum 11-03, commonly referred to as the “Water Bottle Ban.”*

**TALKING POINTS**

- The policy was discontinued to expand healthy hydration options for recreationalists, hikers, and other visitors to national parks. The ban removed the healthiest beverage choice at a variety of parks while still allowing sales of bottled sweetened drinks.
- We will continue to encourage the use of free water bottle filling stations as appropriate, but ultimately it should be up to our visitors to decide how best to keep themselves and their families hydrated during a visit to a national park, particularly during hot summer visitation periods.
- The change in policy came after an NPS internal review of the policy’s aims and impact in close consultation with Department of the Interior leadership.

###

--  
Alex Hinson

Deputy Press Secretary  
Department of the Interior

**From:** Hinson, Alex  
**Sent:** 2017-10-25T16:27:03-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** \*News Alert\* Email release aims to thwart sage grouse collusion claims  
**Received:** 2017-10-25T16:27:12-04:00

**[E&E News: Email release aims to thwart sage grouse collusion claims](#)**

**Scott Streater**

**October 25, 2017**

An oil and gas industry trade group voluntarily released email exchanges that recommended the Interior Department make significant changes to Obama-era greater sage grouse conservation plans.

Denver-based Western Energy Alliance released dozens of emails between it and officials with Interior and an agency review panel after a watchdog group on Monday filed a federal lawsuit against the department (Greenwire, Oct. 23).

The Western Values Project lawsuit claims Interior has not responded to a Freedom of Information Act request seeking records concerning the oil and gas industry's involvement in the proposed changes to the federal grouse plans.

WVP's complaint, filed in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia, says its Aug. 19 FOIA request sought correspondence between Interior officials and oil and gas industry representatives, particularly Western Energy Alliance.

The watchdog group has maintained that the suggestions for significant changes to the federal plans by a review team established by Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke mirrored almost exactly the recommendations Western Energy Alliance sent the team in July (E&E News PM, Aug. 17).

But the emails released by the alliance today don't indicate that Western Energy Alliance had a large impact on the review team, or the Bureau of Land Management's decision this month to reopen the federal plans for public input on possible changes.

The emails include the July 19 letter from the alliance to the Zinke review team outlining potential changes to the plans that had already been published months ago.

Kathleen Sgamma, Western Energy Alliance's president, said that the alliance was hardly alone in asking the Trump administration to change the federal grouse blueprint, and that the trade group is being singled out.

"As much as WVP would like to discredit the rewrite that Interior has just undertaken, the fact is that a whole range of stakeholders across the West has been pushing for the changes," Sgamma said in a statement.

"States, counties, ranchers, mining and environmental groups all sued over the 2015 plans, as did the Alliance, because the process was so flawed," she added. "WVP is choosing to focus on the

Alliance because environmental groups like to make the oil and natural gas industry the boogeyman."

She also called on "WVP and all environmental groups engaged on sage grouse issues ... to follow our lead and release all their communications with the Interior Department between August 2011, when BLM embarked on its sage grouse planning strategy, and September 22, 2015 when the final sage grouse plans were announced" by former Interior Secretary Sally Jewell.

"Then it will become obvious which groups really colluded improperly with the government," she wrote.

Jayson O'Neill, WVP's deputy director, dismissed the alliance's move to release the emails, calling it "nothing short of an oil and gas lobby group trying to distract from getting their hand caught in the cookie jar."

He added in an emailed statement: "It does not let Secretary Zinke's department off the hook from releasing public documents that influenced their decision to overhaul and rollback sage-grouse habitat protections across the West. We already know that Secretary Zinke is meeting regularly with his industry allies."

Meanwhile, WVP continues to challenge the oil and gas industry on the sage grouse issue.

The group today released an analysis suggesting that member companies associated with the Western Energy Alliance hold leases on more than a million acres of sage grouse habitat and stand to benefit most if the federal plans are weakened.

"There are currently over 6.5 million acres of oil and gas leases in sage-grouse habitat designated for heightened protection under BLM's plans," the analysis says. "Within this habitat, WEA Companies are five of the largest lease-owners, including three of the four largest."

###

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Alex Hinson

Deputy Press Secretary  
Department of the Interior



**To:** heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** FOIA DMU Processing  
**Sent:** 2017-08-15T17:48:05-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** A Compilation of My "FOIA Glacier American Oversight" Label  
**Received:** 2017-08-15T17:48:33-04:00  
[FOIA Glacier American Oversight.zip](#)

Hello,

Attached you will find a compilation of all the emails and attachments from my "FOIA Glacier American Oversight" label. There is one or multiple PDF files that contain the contents of the email, and corresponding zipped folders with attachments sorted by conversation, and notated in the PDF for reference. You can view them by simply clicking the "view" link below, or they can also be downloaded locally to your computer.

To open zip files, you can use the built in zipping utility or use a third party utility like WinZip.

If you need more assistance, please contact your local help desk.



\*Created with the FOIA DMU Processing Application\*

**To:** leah\_fairman@ios.doi.gov[leah\_fairman@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** FOIA DMU Processing  
**Sent:** 2017-08-15T17:47:39-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** A Compilation of My "FOIA Glacier American Oversight" Label  
**Received:** 2017-08-15T17:48:19-04:00  
[FOIA Glacier American Oversight.zip](#)

Hello,

Attached you will find a compilation of all the emails and attachments from my "FOIA Glacier American Oversight" label. There is one or multiple PDF files that contain the contents of the email, and corresponding zipped folders with attachments sorted by conversation, and notated in the PDF for reference. You can view them by simply clicking the "view" link below, or they can also be downloaded locally to your computer.

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\*Created with the FOIA DMU Processing Application\*

**To:** heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** FOIA DMU Processing  
**Sent:** 2017-08-14T20:00:17-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** A Compilation of My "FOIA June 12 BENM Call" Label  
**Received:** 2017-08-14T20:00:26-04:00  
[FOIA June 12 BENM Call.zip](#)

Hello,

Attached you will find a compilation of all the emails and attachments from my "FOIA June 12 BENM Call" label. There is one or multiple PDF files that contain the contents of the email, and corresponding zipped folders with attachments sorted by conversation, and notated in the PDF for reference. You can view them by simply clicking the "view" link below, or they can also be downloaded locally to your computer.

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\*Created with the FOIA DMU Processing Application\*

**To:** osfoia@ios.doi.gov[osfoia@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** FOIA DMU Processing  
**Sent:** 2017-08-14T20:00:16-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** A Compilation of My "FOIA June 12 BENM Call" Label  
**Received:** 2017-08-14T20:00:25-04:00  
[FOIA June 12 BENM Call.zip](#)

Hello,

Attached you will find a compilation of all the emails and attachments from my "FOIA June 12 BENM Call" label. There is one or multiple PDF files that contain the contents of the email, and corresponding zipped folders with attachments sorted by conversation, and notated in the PDF for reference. You can view them by simply clicking the "view" link below, or they can also be downloaded locally to your computer.

To open zip files, you can use the built in zipping utility or use a third party utility like WinZip.

If you need more assistance, please contact your local help desk.



\*Created with the FOIA DMU Processing Application\*

**To:** interior\_press@ios.doi.gov[interior\_press@ios.doi.gov]; Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Eilperin, Juliet  
**Sent:** 2017-12-15T16:28:30-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** a question about David Bernhardt attending weekly meetings in the six months leading up to his confirmation  
**Received:** 2017-12-15T16:28:35-05:00

Dear Press Team,

According to Downey Magallanes' schedule, which was recently released through a FOIA, David Bernhardt started attending the weekly acting assistant secretaries meeting starting Feb. 6. In his May 1, 2017 letter to the DOI ethics office, Mr. Bernhardt wrote, "Upon confirmation, I will withdraw from the partnership of Brownstein Hyatt Farber and Schreck, LLP, and all related entities." Given those two facts, I was hoping to check a couple of things.

1. Is it accurate that Mr. Bernhardt attended weekly meetings at Interior with other political appointees even though he was still employed by his law and lobbying firm?
2. How did he handle any issues that might have come up in those meetings, given the potential conflicts of interests that might have arisen?

Thanks so much, and I am reachable at all of the ways below. I want to give you time to respond, so let me know what you think would be doable, in terms of answering this.

Juliet

Juliet Eilperin  
Senior National Affairs Correspondent  
Washington Post  
[Juliet.eilperin@washpost.com](mailto:Juliet.eilperin@washpost.com)  
(O) 202-334-7774  
(C) (b) (6)  
@eilperin

**To:** April\_Slayton@nps.gov[April\_Slayton@nps.gov]; Grandoni, Dino[Dino.Grandoni@washpost.com]; Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Eilperin, Juliet  
**Sent:** 2017-12-11T17:15:02-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** a question about how NPS is handling FOIA procedures  
**Received:** 2017-12-11T17:15:25-05:00  
[dillonfoia1.pdf](#)

Dear April,

A week and a half ago I had asked Heather and her colleagues if the Secretary's office had instituted new procedures for processing FOIA requests, since requests regarding the monuments review process were being referred to the Secretary's office. (I've pasted an example of a response from a regional NPS officer below, and I have attached an example of a recent letter along the same lines, from a BLM official). She said this was false, and that you could speak to your FOIA procedures, so I thought I would check with you and loop in my colleague Dino Grandoni, who is also interested in this topic.

I am cc'ing Heather on this both to make sure she's aware of this, and to see if there's a way to get a department-wide figure for the rise in the number of total FOIA requests the department is receiving, since I am sure it is considerable.

Thanks, and a response tomorrow is fine—I know that it is late in the day.

Best, Juliet

Juliet Eilperin  
Senior National Affairs Correspondent  
Washington Post  
[Juliet.eilperin@washpost.com](mailto:Juliet.eilperin@washpost.com)  
(O) 202-334-7774  
(C) (b) (6)  
@eilperin  
**Subject:** EFTS\_18\_00005 -- KAWW

Dear Ms. Dillon,

We have been notified that all requests relating to the monument designation review issue will be processed by the Department of the Interior Office of the Secretary (OS) FOIA Office. Accordingly, we have transferred all the remaining, responsive records for your request to their office. They will issue a final response to your request once they have completed the processing those records. In the meantime you can contact their FOIA Officer at:

Clarice Julka; OS FOIA Officer  
MS-7328, MIB  
[1849 C Street, NW\[maps.google.com\]](#)  
[Washington, DC 20240\[maps.google.com\]](#)  
Phone: (202) 513-0765  
Fax: (202) 219-2374  
E-Mail: [osfoia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov)

Sincerely,

Ellen Carlson

Ellen Carlson  
Legislative Affairs Specialist

National Park Service  
Northeast Region  
15 State Street  
Boston, MA 02109

Ph. 617.223.5048  
Cell. 617.834.2626

---

**From:** Heather Swift [mailto:heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**Sent:** Friday, December 01, 2017 6:41 PM  
**To:** Eilperin, Juliet <Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com>  
**Cc:** Interior\_Press@ios.doi.gov  
**Subject:** Re: checking in on a few fronts

1. We have no new announcements on national monuments.
2. Checked back with exec sec/solicitors. Expect something soon. It got lost in the holiday hustle.
3. That is wholly false. NPS can speak to their FOIA procedures.
4. The Department has no new announcements on national monuments.

Heather Swift  
Press Secretary  
Department of the Interior

On Dec 1, 2017, at 1:10 PM, Eilperin, Juliet <[Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com](mailto:Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com)> wrote:

Dear All,

I had a few questions for different stories, so I thought it's easiest if I put them in one email.

1. First, I just published this piece about how USDA confirmed that the department did not specifically recommend any Forest Land be removed from Bears Ears or four other national monuments under review, and I just wanted to see if DOI wanted to comment: <http://wapo.st/2Br1U3Q>
2. Second, I'd love to get those stats, if it's possible, on how the rate of FOIA requests has increased since January, compared to the year before.
3. Three, it appears that regional NPS FOIA officers are now saying that all FOIA requests are being processed through the Office of the Secretary, which is a change from just a couple of weeks ago. Is it possible to get a comment on why this policy shift occurred?

4. Four, if you have any further comments on the draft documents on Bears Ears and Grand Staircase-Escalante, now that other outlets have reported on this, let me know.

I am best reached via email or cell, (b) (6).  
Thanks, Juliet

Juliet Eilperin  
Senior National Affairs Correspondent  
Washington Post  
[Juliet.eilperin@washpost.com](mailto:Juliet.eilperin@washpost.com)  
(O) 202-334-7774  
(C) (b) (6)  
@eilperin



**To:** interior\_press@ios.doi.gov[interior\_press@ios.doi.gov]; Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Eilperin, Juliet  
**Sent:** 2017-12-11T09:05:12-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** a question related to Secretary Zinke's Channel Islands trip  
**Received:** 2017-12-11T09:05:17-05:00

Dear Press Team,

An advocacy group has shared some documents from a FOIA request that concern the Secretary's April 17-18 trip to the Channel Island. The documents show that the federal government incurred extra government expense of more than \$2,000 because the boat normally sails from Ventura Harbor. The reason for the change in harbor appears to be due to the fact that the Secretary chose to address the Young America's Foundation town hall in Santa Barbara.

I plan to post an item of this today (most likely, in the late morning), but I wanted to check in with you all first, especially since in one of the emails, the NPS superintendent seems to indicate that he had heard about Zinke's plans to address the conservative group, and may have extended the invitation to visit after learning about this commitment. So I would like a little more clarity on that.

Thanks so much. I am reachable all of the usual ways, below.

Juliet

Juliet Eilperin  
Senior National Affairs Correspondent  
Washington Post  
[Juliet.eilperin@washpost.com](mailto:Juliet.eilperin@washpost.com)  
(O) 202-334-7774  
(C) (b) (6)  
@eilperin

**To:** Magallanes, Downey[downey\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Swift, Heather  
**Sent:** 2017-12-12T13:03:18-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** any issue with this response?  
**Received:** 2017-12-12T13:04:05-05:00

Washington Post asking why DOI is reviewing NPS FOIAs. NPS already told them that's not happening. WP asked about a monument FOIA that DOI had to review. Below is the proposed response.

"The National Park Service has not been asked to change its FOIA procedures nor is the Department of the Interior asking to review responses to all NPS FOIA requests.

The Office of the Secretary FOIA office is coordinating and processing responses to all FOIA requests related to the Secretary of the Interior's review of national monuments as the review deals with multiple bureaus in the Department of the Interior.

It is not unusual for the Department's FOIA office to coordinate the responses on FOIA requests involving requests for information that cross multiple bureaus."

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior

@DOIPressSec

[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

**To:** Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Howarth, Robert  
**Sent:** 2017-09-08T17:33:06-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** as requested  
**Received:** 2017-09-08T17:33:13-04:00  
[Fuels Treatment SecMemo Final Draft3 - OES edit 9-8-17.docx](#)

--

Robert Howarth  
Deputy Director for Correspondence and FOIA Management  
Office of the Executive Secretariat and Regulatory Affairs  
Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20240  
202-208-3181  
202-208-4451 (direct)  
202-549-8961 (cell)

**To:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** clarice\_julka@ios.doi.gov  
**Sent:** 2017-10-20T08:48:16-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** attached FOIA request 17-00617  
**Received:** 2017-10-20T08:48:59-04:00  
[17-00617qa.pdf](#)

Hello,

I've attached a FOIA request we received several months ago. We had reached out to Shandria in your office and she said you may have records. Please let us know asap since the requester has filed a lawsuit regarding this request.

Thanks,

v/r

Clarice Julka

--

Department of the Interior  
Office of the Secretary, FOIA Office  
1849 C Street, NW, MS-7328  
Washington, D.C. 20240  
[os\\_foia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:os_foia@ios.doi.gov)  
(202) 513-0765 - phone  
(202) 219-2374 - fax

**To:** heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** POLITICO Pro Budget and Appropriations Brief  
**Sent:** 2017-09-12T16:24:26-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Budget & Appropriations Brief: Womack leading pack to helm budget panel — No December debt ceiling vote — House resumes minibus debate  
**Received:** 2017-09-12T16:25:44-04:00

By Jennifer Scholtes and Sarah Ferris | 09/12/2017 04:21 PM EDT

**GAVEL GRAB:** A weeks-long sleeper race to run the House Budget Committee has finally produced a front-runner. [Steve Womack](#) is expected to take over for [Diane Black](#) when she steps down as chairman in the next few weeks to pursue the Tennessee governor's mansion, four senior Republicans tell [Rachael Bade](#).

Womack would leapfrog other senior members on the panel, just as Black did last year. Like former budget chiefs, the Arkansas Republican is close to leadership and already assists with the House GOP's whipping operations. He's also a prolific fundraiser and frequently pays more than his share of dues to the NRCC.

**Tall order:** The relatively low-profile lawmaker would suddenly become one of the GOP's most valuable players in this fall's big tax reform battle. Womack would likely be forced to play referee between the House's right-leaning budget members and their much more moderate counterparts in the Senate. Indeed, for months Black has been putting out fires to win over defense hawks, deficit-conscious conservatives and moderates. Budget members were so frustrated by the standoffs this year, in fact, that they privately demanded Black go over Speaker [Paul Ryan](#) to get their budget out of committee.

**You had one job:** The top budget spot has been hard to envy in recent years (though at least two other Republicans, [Rob Woodall](#) and [Bill Johnson](#), are also eyeing the position). While the committee's main task is creating an annual fiscal blueprint, the House hasn't passed a budget since 2015.

**Two promotions?** Womack is one of only three Republicans who sit on both the budget and appropriations panels. And he's currently the only one who's not also a cardinal, though he's hoping that changes in 2018. Upon [Charlie Dent](#)'s retirement next year, Womack is next in line to lead the MilCon-VA appropriations subcommittee, a post well-suited to a guy who spent 30 years in the Army National Guard.

**Stay tuned:** The House Republican Steering Committee has not yet announced when it'll formally select the next Budget chairman. And Black isn't ruling out an early end to her term in Congress, according to her [hometown paper](#).

**GOOD TUESDAY AFTERNOON!** Reach out: [jscholtes@politico.com](mailto:jscholtes@politico.com) (@jascholtes) and [sferris@politico.com](mailto:sferris@politico.com) (@sarahnferris).

**Doc(s) of the day** — A coalition of defense analysts sent a [letter](#) this week urging senators to

support an [amendment](#) to the National Defense Authorization Act ([H.R. 2810 \(115\)](#)) that would authorize a new round of military base realignments and closures. More from [Gregory Hellman](#).

**#DailyBudgetFact** — More than 32,600 federal workers are involved in the national response to Hurricane Irma, from the Red Cross to the Army Corps of Engineers. That also includes more than 2,300 FEMA staff.

## DEBT CEILING

**OFFICIALLY OFF THE TABLE:** Senate Majority Leader [Mitch McConnell](#) said [this afternoon](#) that Congress won't be voting in December to raise the debt ceiling — denying Democrats the political leverage they stood to gain if the threat of shutdown collided again with efforts to raise the nation's borrowing limit. "It does not eliminate the extraordinary measures that the Treasury secretary had always had," McConnell told reporters. "It doesn't mean that we won't address the debt ceiling in the future."

**Saw it coming:** While congressional Republicans and the Trump administration have not said how long they expect the latest patch to last, some economists have predicted the Treasury Department can make do until March with the tide-me-over Congress cleared Friday.

## APPROPRIATIONS

**SNAIL PACE:** It's totally understandable if you've forgotten the House is still debating its minibus. After pausing Friday to pass a different spending package (that will actually fund the government beyond Sept. 30), the lower chamber is back at it this afternoon, picking up with day four of debate on its eight remaining funding bills for fiscal 2018.

**Where we left off:** The House will debate amendments to the Commerce-Justice-Science title this afternoon, and maybe some Labor-HHS-Education tweaks this evening. But no minibus-related roll calls are expected until Wednesday.

**Last of all:** The House could wrap up amendments to the Financial Services section Wednesday and vote on passage Thursday.

**HITCHING A RIDE:** The fast-moving fiscal package that wound up on President Donald Trump's desk last Friday had a little help from the READ Act, [H.R. 601 \(115\)](#). Because a version of that global education bill had already passed both chambers this year, the measure was able to bypass Senate procedural steps this month. The sponsors of that bill — Sens. [Marco Rubio](#) and [Dick Durbin](#), as well as Reps. [Nita Lowey](#) and [Dave Reichert](#) — celebrated its enactment in a statement today. (Lowey and then-Sen. Hillary Clinton introduced the first version of the bill in 2004.)

## DISASTER RELIEF

**METEOROLOGICAL MISCALCULATIONS:** The warnings were abundant: Hurricane Irma was supposed to be America's costliest storm on record. Financial forecasters like Georgia-based Enki Research had been predicting \$200 billion in damage from Irma alone. Now, with the storm softening as it climbed up the East Coast, that same company's damage estimates have dropped

to about [\\$49 billion](#).

**Fears fading:** Moody's now estimates that both hurricanes — Harvey and Irma — will cost between \$150 billion and \$200 billion together, Matt Dixon [reports](#). That's on par with Katrina in 2005, but much less than initially expected for the more recent storms. "Damage may not be as severe as once feared," Risk Management Solutions hurricane-tracker Tom Sabbatelli wrote in a [blog post](#) Monday. The company had initially predicted damages of around \$85 billion.

**NOT GONNA GUESS:** A FEMA spokesperson said it's "too early to speculate on the full impacts of Hurricanes Harvey and Irma."

**Key word is 'cost-sharing':** Over the last week, the White House has declared disaster zones in [six](#) states and U.S. territories, making those areas eligible for federal aid. But that doesn't mean the feds are picking up the full tab. For debris removal and hazard mitigation, the government covers only a limited share of those costs. For the Virgin Islands and the Seminole Tribe of Florida, that's between 75 and 90 percent. For Puerto Rico and Florida, FEMA hasn't yet said how much it'll reimburse.

**Full funding:** In places like Florida and the Virgin Islands, the federal government says it will cover 100 percent of funding for "emergency protective measures." Even still, Florida will only have 30 days to get Washington to fully pay those costs. And in Alabama, only 75 percent of that will be covered.

**Related headlines:** [Road recovery underway in Florida](#) | [Mexico diverts hurricane aid to deadly quake](#) | [Storm could reignite crop subsidies fight](#) | [Easing more SNAP restrictions](#)

## TAX

**COURTING CONTINUES:** President Donald Trump has invited three Democratic senators over for dinner tonight to chat about tax reform as he tries to get more members of the minority party in his corner, Burgess Everett [reports](#). Democrats invited: [Joe Manchin](#), [Heidi Heitkamp](#) and [Joe Donnelly](#). GOP attendees: [Pat Toomey](#), [Orrin Hatch](#) and [John Thune](#).

**Corporate rate in question:** Although getting to a 15 percent corporate tax rate remains Trump's goal, Treasury Secretary Steve Mnuchin said this morning that he doesn't know if that's possible, Aaron Lorenzo [reports](#). FWIW, new Heritage Foundation findings [conclude](#) that worker wages stand to benefit greatly from a corporate rate reduction.

**Deets, please:** Amid the ongoing strategizing, congressional Republicans are getting antsy for a concrete plan, Colin Wilhelm and Aaron [explain](#).

## IMMIGRATION

**NO 'DREAMER'-LINKED BORDER WALL DEMAND:** Trump is sending both public and private signals that he is ready to tackle "DREAMer" legislation and won't demand it be tied to funding for a border wall, Seung Min Kim and Andrew Restuccia [report](#). House Minority Leader [Nancy Pelosi](#) said today that Trump told her privately that he would sign the DREAM Act — a bill that would provide a path to permanent legal status for young, undocumented immigrants —

and that he wants "some border security." Marc Short, the White House's director of legislative affairs, also said today that he doesn't want "to bind ourselves into a construct that makes reaching a conclusion on DACA impossible."

## DEFENSE

**FORCED TO HOLD OFF:** Congress' latest appropriations punt is forcing the Pentagon to make big spending sacrifices. The Defense Department will need to cut back on almost all hiring and training, while also dealing with steeper acquisition prices, Gregory Hellman [writes](#).

**CHUGGING ALONG:** The Senate on Monday night advanced its annual defense bill, NDAA, Connor O'Brien [reports](#). Lawmakers are still aiming for final passage this week, though votes could be complicated by [Rand Paul](#)'s stand against the bill. Next up: as many as 400 amendment votes on issues like transgender troops and forcing Pentagon base closures.

## EDUCATION

**VOUCHER PLAN LOSES STEAM:** The Trump administration's effort to expand school choice seems to be going nowhere right now. Republicans appear unlikely to add a controversial tax credit for private schooling to the overhaul plan they'll already struggle to pass, the White House has been mum on the issue for months, "school choice" is a nonstarter among House and Senate appropriators and experts don't see a school tax credit passing as a standalone bill, Caitlin Emma [explains](#).

## ECONOMY

**INCOME STILL FLAT:** The U.S. Census reported a 3.2 percent increase today in U.S. median household income between 2015 and 2016, Timothy Noah [explains](#). But after factoring in inflation, average income is essentially unchanged. Again, we're reminded that income levels and wages are the most stubborn economic indicators in the post-recovery phase of the recession. As the Economic Policy Institute [notes](#), that's down 1.6 percent since 2007 and is 2.3 percent lower than 2000.

## TREASURY

**THE INSTAGRAM POST THAT WON'T DIE:** Now comes the sequel to the [cyber quarrel](#) that broke out last month about Louise Linton's #Valentino- and #hermesscarf-tagged Instagram pic. A watchdog group is suing the Treasury Department for documents related to Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin's use of a government plane to fly to Kentucky with his wife in August, Victoria Guida [reports](#).

## FLOOD INSURANCE

**INVESTOR PAYOUT:** The two hurricanes that slammed the U.S. this month are testing the National Flood Insurance Program's new reinsurance strategy. For just the second time in its history, the debt-laden program is relying on a group of 25 outside investors to help bail out waterlogged homeowners. In January, those reinsurers bought coverage for about \$150 million. Now, they could be paying up to \$1 billion to help cover the severe Gulf Coast flooding, as



Zachary Warmbrodt [reports](#). It's the biggest payout yet for the program, and it's got officials optimistic about the next reinsurance placement planned for January.

## ENERGY

**ELECTRIC GRID GRANTS:** The Energy Department announced \$50 million in grants today to improve security and resilience of the electric grid, Eric Geller [reports](#).

## ELECTIONS

**DREAMING BIG:** Democratic senators in charge of 2018 election planning are holding out hope (at least publicly) that they could take back the upper chamber. Kevin Robillard and Gabriel Debenedetti [explain](#) that reelecting red-state incumbents is still the top priority for Senate Democratic strategists. But they have also begun investigating opportunities to play offense on GOP turf.

## OPIOIDS

**CHRISTE DEFENDS TRUMP'S DELAY:** New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie says he knows Trump's "heart" on addressing the opioid crisis, trying to explain away the fact that the president has yet to declare the epidemic a national emergency, Katie Jennings [reports](#).

## EARMARKS

— Federal audit finds New York made \$1.4B in improper Medicaid payments. [POLITICO New York](#).

— Trump's push for tax cuts is coming up against a familiar challenge: Divided GOP. [Washington Post](#).

— Chicago asks judge to halt Trump plan to deny funds to "sanctuary cities." [Reuters](#).

— Trump will work with either Democrats or Republicans to achieve tax overhaul. [New York Times](#).

— Labor Department to evaluate apprenticeship grants. [POLITICO Pro](#).

**WE'RE COUNTING:** 87 days until federal funding runs out and the National Flood Insurance Program expires (Dec. 8, 2017), 18 days until the Children's Health Insurance Program is up for renewal (Sept. 30, 2017). 383 days until farm bill authorization is up (Sept. 30, 2018). [Who knows how many] days until the nation will default if the debt limit isn't raised.

*To view online:*

<https://www.politicopro.com/tipsheets/budget-appropriations-brief/2017/09/womack-leading-pack-to-helm-budget-panel-024560>

## Stories from POLITICO Pro

**Republicans jockey for looming Budget chairman vacancy** [Back](#)

By Rachael Bade | 09/11/2017 06:22 PM EDT

A handful of Republicans are lining up to replace outgoing House Budget Chairman Diane Black, quietly jockeying for a gavel that will play a starring role in the upcoming tax reform fight.

Budget panel Republicans Steve Womack, Rob Woodall and Bill Johnson are all eyeing the position, the lawmakers confirmed in interviews. Womack and Johnson have already alerted Speaker Paul Ryan of their interest and started buttonholing members of the House panel that elects its chair — though Black, who is running for Tennessee governor, will likely retain her position until the House passes its 2018 blueprint, which is expected around the end of the month.

Four senior Republicans said Womack is currently front-runner. While not the most senior member on the panel, the Arkansas Republican has a good reputation with leadership and conservatives alike. He also organized the National Republican Congressional Committee's March dinner with President Donald Trump, which brought in \$30 million for the campaign arm.

"There's an expectation that Black will step down having announced for governor of Tennessee, creating a vacancy in the chair, and I'm interested in taking the chairmanship," Womack said. "These are very important times for our majority... and I think the Budget Committee will be very critical in establishing the right framework whereby a sustainable fiscal policy can be crafted that can reach many of the outcomes that a majority of our majority would like to see."

The next chairman would take the gavel at a critical time for Republicans. The party has failed to repeal Obamacare, fund Trump's border wall with Mexico or otherwise secure a single major legislative victory. Tax reform therefore looms large, with many in the GOP seeing it as a must-have to avoid a blood bath in 2018.

But to unlock the fast-tracking procedural tool enabling Republicans to circumvent the Senate's 60-vote threshold and pass a partisan tax package, GOP lawmakers have to pass an identical budget through the House and Senate.

That's where the new budget chairman will be critical. Even if the House clears Black's fiscal blueprint in the coming weeks, Senate budget writers are expected to write a much different plan, jump-starting a series of high-level bicameral negotiations between budget chairmen about what a deal might look like.

There will be plenty of drama. Several senior Republican sources said the final deal might be a "shell" budget that simply includes instructions for tax reform but makes no major cuts to mandatory spending programs, as the House's current draft proposes. That would meet with stiff resistance from conservatives, who were promised by GOP leaders that they would not have to vote on text that includes no serious reforms.

The next budget chairman will have to strike a tricky balance between conservatives eager for spending cuts and House GOP leaders dealing with the more moderate-minded Senate.

Many thought Rep. Todd Rokita (R-Ind.) — Budget Committee vice chairman — would replace

Black. But the budget wonk decided to run for Senate in Indiana instead and is locking horns with Rep. Luke Messer (R-Ind.) in the hotly contested primary.

The next two most-senior members, Reps. Tom Cole (R-Okla.) and Mario Diaz Balart (R-Fla.), are both senior members of the Appropriations panel and don't want to give up their subcommittee gavels on the powerful spending committee.

Rep. Tom McClintock (R-Calif.) and Woodall come next, and sources say both are interested, though McClintock's office did not respond to request for comment.

Woodall, a Georgia Republican, said his goal would be "getting [the committee] out of the messaging business and translating that into action," along with tackling budget process reform.

"In the minority you think of a messaging document. In the majority, it is a framework for how to get things done," he said. "So what are those things we could get done together? My goal would be to find those items."

Womack is considered the front-runner because of his leadership experience. He sits on the deputy whip team and often exceeds dues to the NRCC — something the House Republican Steering Committee takes into account when choosing chairmen.

The former mayor, who spent 30 years in the Army National Guard, would want to retain his post on the Appropriations Committee, where he is next in line for a subcommittee gavel. A spot is opening up with Rep. Charlie Dent, an Appropriations subcommittee chief, retiring next year.

Like many Budget Republicans, Womack has admired Black's work on the current budget plan, which includes \$200 billion worth of mandatory spending cuts that's garnered applause from conservatives. Womack says he'd like to continue in that vein, arguing that reducing the national debt "cannot be satisfied by cutting discretionary spending alone."

"With the deficits we're talking about, it is absolutely important to have the conversation about what's going on on the mandatory side," he said.

Womack also argued that the budget is critical for tax reform. "It's important for Republicans to keep their eye on the collective prize, and right now if it's not health care, it has to be tax reform," he said. "This isn't an area [where] we can stumble, so we need to be all hands on deck on the vehicle that will give us tax reform."

Johnson of Ohio, an early Trump defender in the House, is also considering a bid for the chairmanship. Elected in 2010, the former Air Force lieutenant colonel has always kept a lower profile on the Hill but also has a good reputation with leadership. He currently serves as an NRCC vice chair.

"I have dealt with budgets my entire life, whether it was on the mule farm or in my Air Force career or as a corporate executive," Johnson said, in making his pitch. "Passing a budget is foundational to our constitutional mandate. There's not much that's more important in fact in the big scheme of things than passing a budget, balancing a budget and managing our nation's financial and fiscal health."

To view online [click here](#).

[Back](#)

## **Coalition of defense analysts urges support for McCain-Reed BRAC amendment** [Back](#)

By Gregory Hellman | 09/12/2017 11:18 AM EDT

A coalition of defense analysts from think tanks and interest groups is urging senators to support an [amendment](#) to the National Defense Authorization Act ([H.R. 2810 \(115\)](#)) that would authorize a new round of military base realignments and closures.

In a [letter](#), organized by Defense Priorities, the experts seek to rally support for an amendment expected to be offered this week on the Senate floor by Armed Services Chairman [John McCain](#) (R-Ariz.) and ranking Democrat [Jack Reed](#) of Rhode Island that [would establish](#) a new Base Realignment and Closure commission to review all installations in 2021.

Defense Priorities argues the proposal would improve the link between basing and strategy, improve cost controls and strengthen congressional oversight compared to previous BRAC rounds.

"The McCain-Reed amendment is carefully tailored to maximize the benefits for U.S. taxpayers and our military," the experts say in their letter.

They also cite the support for a new BRAC round offered by Defense Secretary Jim Mattis and the new assistant secretary of Defense for energy, installations and the environment, Lucian Niemeyer, [last week](#) at the Heritage Foundation.

Among those signing the letter were analysts from the Project on Government Oversight, Heritage Action for America, Concerned Veterans for America, FreedomWorks, the Atlantic Council, National Taxpayers Union, the London Center for Policy Research, the Hoover Institution and Peace Action.

To view online [click here](#).

[Back](#)

## **McConnell: No December debt ceiling vote** [Back](#)

By Sarah Ferris and Jennifer Scholtes | 09/12/2017 02:47 PM EDT

Senate Majority Leader [Mitch McConnell](#) said this afternoon that Congress won't vote again this year to raise the debt ceiling.

"It does not eliminate the extraordinary measures that the Treasury secretary had always had," McConnell told reporters. "It doesn't mean that we won't address the debt ceiling in the future."

But the vote "will not be in December," he explained.

While Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin has not officially predicted how much time Congress has until the nation will reach its borrowing limit, some economists have predicted lawmakers might be able to hold out until March before risking default.

After President Donald Trump struck a deal with Democrats last week to temporarily raise the debt ceiling along with stopgap spending and disaster aid, GOP lawmakers began [insisting](#) the White House come up with a plan for cutting spending in the next effort to lift the limit.

To view online [click here](#).

[Back](#)

**POLITICO Pro Florida: Moody's: Irma could cost \$92B in economic damages** [Back](#)

By Matt Dixon | 09/12/2017 11:34 AM EDT

The economic cost of Hurricane Irma could be between \$64 billion and \$92 billion, according to estimates released today by Moody's Analytics.

Collectively, the firm said the impacts of Hurricanes Irma and Harvey, which decimated southeast Texas and Houston, could cost between \$150 billion and \$200 billion in total damages. That includes damage to "homes and furnishing, vehicles, commercial real estate, and public infrastructure.

"This is comparable to the property loss resulting from Hurricane Katrina," read the estimate.

The firm noted that the estimates are likely to change as additional damage is discovered, but did say that mainstays of both state's economies should bounce back by the end of the month.

"We expect the Texas energy industry and Florida tourism to be operating at close to the normal by the end of September," wrote Mark Zandi, Moody's Analytics chief economist.

He predicted that Congress will appropriate money beyond the \$15 billion approved last week for storm damages in Florida and Texas. The federal dollars, coupled with insurance money, should help offset damages.

"As with most natural disasters in recent years, we anticipate that the combination of insurance money and government aid will roughly cover the full cost of the property damage and the lost economic output," Zandi wrote.

He anticipated that the storms' aftermath will boost GDP by the fourth quarter, but there are some caveats.

"The timing and magnitude of the rebuilding bump to growth will depend on labor availability," he wrote. "There were already mounting labor shortages in both Texas and Florida before the storms, and they will surely be much more acute in their wake."

*This story first appeared on [POLITICO Pro Florida](#) on Sept. 11, 2017.*

To view online [click here](#).

[Back](#)

## **Mexico no longer offering Harvey aid after deadly quake [Back](#)**

By Louis Nelson | 09/12/2017 07:14 AM EDT

The Mexican government will no longer offer aid to Texas and Louisiana to help with recovery efforts in the wake of Hurricane Harvey, Mexico's foreign ministry announced Monday, instead redirecting that aid to portions of its own nation damaged by a powerful earthquake and Hurricane Katia.

The 8.2 magnitude earthquake struck central Mexico last week near the city of Oaxaca, killing 95 people and injuring hundreds more, the Mexican foreign ministry said. Separately, Hurricane Katia's landfall inflicted "significant damage" on the Mexican state of Veracruz, the foreign ministry said.

"Given this situation, the Mexican government will channel all available logistical support to the families and communities that have been affected in Mexico and has informed the Texas and U.S. governments that, unfortunately, on this occasion, it won't be possible to provide the assistance originally offered," Mexico's foreign ministry [said](#). "This decision is due to the fact that conditions in both countries have changed and that Texas's need for assistance has fortunately diminished."

The Mexican government had offered to send food, personnel, boats and other supplies as part of the Harvey recovery effort. Mexican Foreign Minister Luis Videgaray said last month during a visit to Washington that "We are neighbors, we are friends. That's what friends do."

But while homeland security adviser Tom Bossert said President Donald Trump was "deeply touched" by a phone call from his Mexican counterpart offering aid and assistance, the federal government did not officially accept Mexico's aid. The Mexican government noted in its statement that its offer had been accepted by the state of Texas, which said it could use the logistical support offered by Mexico.

Trump, who has not publicly offered condolences to Mexico in the wake of its earthquake and hurricane landfall, has made getting tough with America's southern neighbor a key part of his political agenda, pledging to either renegotiate or tear up NAFTA and to build a wall along the U.S.-Mexico border that Mexico will pay for.

The Mexican government, along with Canada, has agreed to renegotiations of NAFTA but has insisted at every turn that it will not pay for Trump's long-promised wall.

Late Monday night, the State Department released a readout of a phone call between Secretary of State Rex Tillerson and Videgaray in which Tillerson "offered his condolences for the loss of life and the devastation caused by the earthquake in Mexico and from Hurricane Katia" and informed him that "the U.S. government stands ready to assist our neighbors in Mexico during this difficult time."

To view online [click here](#).

[Back](#)

## **Hurricane Irma's path through Florida likely to expose crop insurance gaps** [Back](#)

By Sabrina Rodriguez and Catherine Boudreau | 09/11/2017 06:18 PM EDT

As Hurricane Irma ravaged Caribbean islands late last week and churned northward, Florida organic fruit grower Jonathan Gambino predicted his farm could be decimated.

If most of his trees are destroyed, he told POLITICO, there would be no insurance check to replace them. "We'll be at square one," said Gambino, owner of Three Sisters Farm, in Homestead. "We do not have insurance, since we can't afford it. We're just trying to come out alive and rebuild."

As Florida farmers assess damage from Irma, the storm's statewide path of destruction is likely to reveal gaps in the federal crop insurance program and put pressure on lawmakers to find a solution as they debate the next farm bill. The high cost of covering specialty crops — fruits, vegetables and tree nuts — has led many growers to forgo insurance, leaving them at risk of being wiped out by the disaster.

The four-decade-old crop insurance program, overseen by USDA's Risk Management Agency and administered by private companies, subsidizes an average of 60 percent of farmers' premiums to help them buy protection against natural disasters. But historically it has primarily covered commodities like corn, soybeans and wheat.

The program has expanded in recent years to cover more fresh produce and organic crops. Yet because specialty crops are grown on a much smaller scale than commodities, it has been challenging to keep premium prices affordable. The smaller scale also makes it difficult to forecast market prices and develop and administer the policies. And the large number of varieties within the specialty crop classification makes insuring them even more complex.

In recent decades USDA has expanded the crop-insurance program to cover about 73 percent of fruit and tree nut acreage and 32 percent of vegetable crops nationwide, while major commodities are about 85 percent covered, according to RMA data. The specialty crop industry accounts for just 8 percent of premiums, while commodity crops account for much of the rest.

The lack of insurance for specialty crops could hit Florida especially hard. With the exception of sugarcane, the majority of the state's biggest fall and winter crops are considered specialty crops, including oranges, grapefruit, sweet corn, green beans, strawberries, tomatoes and squash.

Florida farmers are insured for an estimated \$2.7 billion in losses. But while most of the state's sugarcane (98 percent), cotton (91 percent) and citrus (87 percent) are insured, only 59 percent of fresh tomatoes, 57 percent of sweet corn and 44 percent of bell peppers are covered, according to a 2015 RMA [report on specialty crops](#). None of the 29,200 acres of fresh beans are covered.

"It's become very cost-prohibitive for folks in specialty crops to engage in it," said John Walt Boatright, national affairs coordinator for the Florida Farm Bureau, the state's largest agricultural organization, of the crop insurance program. "There are really only a few options that our specialty crop producers can turn to."

The state also produces most of the domestic supply of fresh vegetables during the winter and spring, and Irma-related damage may prevent farmers from planting soon.

"Those crops have just been planted or are about to be, so the silver lining is it's coming early in the season," said Lisa Lochridge, director of public affairs at Florida Fruit and Vegetable Association. "If the crops on the field are flooded or damaged, farmers will have to make the decision of whether or not to replant."

Lochridge said Irma is particularly worrisome for citrus growers as their trees are now full of fruit. Navel oranges and grapefruit, for example, are in season beginning in November. Gambino, the Homestead grower, said his concern was largely for the lime industry, which he said was practically erased from South Florida after Hurricane Andrew in 1992 but has been making a comeback in the region.

The damage in Florida is likely to add urgency to the debate in Congress over how to improve crop insurance in the next farm bill. The legislation — which covers everything from agricultural subsidies and nutrition programs to conservation and trade policy — is due for reauthorization at the end of September 2018.

Many lawmakers, including Senate Agriculture ranking member [Debbie Stabenow](#) (D-Mich.), support expanding crop insurance for specialty crop growers. That would mean increasing the cost of the program — something that's continually criticized by taxpayer watchdog groups and some members of Congress who call for cuts that would make wealthy farmers ineligible for premium subsidies, among other reforms. The 2018 farm bill is on track to be a budget balancing act, as the GOP pushes forward on its agenda to reduce the federal deficit.

Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue said he is waiting to see how the crop insurance program addresses farmers' losses caused by Harvey and Irma, as well as from wildfires blazing in the Northwest. Perdue [told reporters](#) on Friday that the farm safety net should be structured so it meets producers' needs, including after natural disasters, instead of leaving farmers and ranchers relying on Congress to enact supplemental disaster assistance measures. Perdue on several occasions also has said that the crop insurance program [should not promise farmers profitability](#).

Perdue, before departing on a multi-state tour this summer to listen to concerns from members of the U.S. agricultural industry, said he plans to be "intimately" involved in the 2018 farm bill. Senate Agriculture Chairman [Pat Roberts](#) (R-Kan.) has voiced plans to get a draft of the legislation done by the end of the year. His counterpart on the House Agriculture Committee, [Mike Conaway](#) (R-Texas), is aiming for a similar timeline, and both are staunch defenders of the program.

On Monday, Florida agricultural leaders and farmers were beginning to assess the damage as Irma, which was downgraded to a tropical storm, moved into Georgia, Alabama and the Carolinas. Florida Agriculture Commissioner Adam Putnam said in a statement that state leaders



were working to contact farmers and take stock of the destruction.

"At this time, it is too soon to tell just how much Hurricane Irma has devastated the agriculture industry," Putnam said.

Even with insurance, farmers say, losses could be devastating.

Paul Allen, co-owner of R.C. Hatton Inc. in Pahokee, Fla., said it will take weeks for him to determine his losses. He said that while he has some fresh vegetables — sweet corn, green beans and tomatoes — in the ground, he's most worried about his more than 4,000 acres of sugarcane.

"We have our sugarcane insured, but there's, regardless, too much at stake," said Allen, who also has a farm in south Georgia. "It won't cover all the loss, and when you look at it, the economic impact is high. That's the trial of farming."

*To view online [click here.](#)*

[Back](#)

**USDA eases SNAP rules for areas affected by Hurricane Irma [Back](#)**

By Sabrina Rodriguez | 09/12/2017 01:38 PM EDT

The USDA's Food and Nutrition Service has approved a waiver that eases Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program regulations in Florida, Georgia and the Virgin Islands in an effort to aid victims of Hurricane Irma.

"Working with our state and private-sector partners, we are actively taking measures to ensure that people in these areas get the food they need," Agriculture Department Secretary Sonny Perdue said today.

SNAP recipients will be able to buy hot and ready-to-eat foods with their benefits through the end of September. Recipients of the Nutrition Assistance Program in Puerto Rico will have access to the same benefits.

The USDA also already has issued all of its September benefits to recipients in the affected areas to ensure they have access to food in the aftermath of the hurricane.

FNS has not made decided whether to offer the Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (D-SNAP) to the affected states, but is in talks with state and territory officials in case that's necessary. On Monday, USDA and Texas state health officials announced they would offer the food assistance program for Hurricane Harvey victims who qualify, but who are normally ineligible for food stamp benefits.

*To view online [click here.](#)*

[Back](#)

**Continuing to court Democrats, Trump will host dinner on tax reform [Back](#)**

By Burgess Everett | 09/11/2017 11:05 PM EDT

President Donald Trump will host a dinner on Tuesday with moderate Democrats and Republican senators focused on tax reform as he continues to court Democrats after cutting a debt ceiling deal last week.

Trump and Vice President Mike Pence will host the dinner on Tuesday evening, the White House said. Democratic Sens. Joe Manchin of West Virginia, Heidi Heitkamp of North Dakota and Joe Donnelly of Indiana have been invited and are expected to attend, aides said. GOP Sens. Pat Toomey of Pennsylvania, Orrin Hatch of Utah and John Thune of South Dakota are among the Republican attendees.

The dinner is expected to center on tax reform, the aides said, now Trump's top priority.

The three moderate Democrats are all up for reelection next year in states Trump won handily in 2016. They have also been closer to the president than other congressional Democrats. Each declined to join a letter with party leaders outlining conditions on tax reform and all three supported Supreme Court Justice Neil Gorsuch earlier this year.

Trump appeared onstage with Heitkamp last week at a tax reform event in North Dakota, and the president called her a "good woman" and said he hoped to have her support. Trump's friendly movements toward Democrats have annoyed some Republicans, who are hoping to oust them next year to pad their majority.

But Trump is trying a bipartisan approach of late after a partisan Obamacare repeal effort failed earlier this year. He agreed to a fiscal deal with Chuck Schumer and Nancy Pelosi last week and has angled for some Democratic votes on tax reform.

Republicans are planning to pursue reform in the Senate via a majority vote threshold, though any Democratic votes could be key due to the GOP's narrow 52-seat majority and internal divisions.

*To view online [click here](#).*

[Back](#)

**Mnuchin acknowledges 15 percent corporate rate not likely [Back](#)**

By Aaron Lorenzo | 09/12/2017 10:05 AM EDT

Cutting the corporate tax rate to 15 percent might not be possible, Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin said Tuesday morning.

That remains President Donald Trump's goal, but the cost of getting that low could stand in the way, Mnuchin said at an event hosted by CNBC.

"I don't know if we'll be able to achieve that, given the budget issues, but we're going to get this down to a very competitive level," he said.

A rate between 20 percent and 25 percent has been described as more feasible, and Mnuchin said the exact number is less important than accomplishing tax reform.

Mnuchin and White House top economic adviser Gary Cohn are scheduled to meet with Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell and the Republicans on the Budget Committee Tuesday to talk about passing a budget, which will determine the scope of a tax reform bill that lawmakers can pass without Democratic votes.

Trump is hosting a bipartisan dinner to talk about tax reform Tuesday night that will include three Senate Democrats. But Mnuchin also said Trump's recent agreement with Democratic leaders in Congress on hurricane disaster aid and the debt limit doesn't signal bipartisan tax reform is being pursued. Administration officials and GOP leaders in Congress are prepared to use reconciliation, the Republican-only pathway to passing legislation by preventing Senate Democrats from blocking bills.

Mnuchin reiterated plans to eliminate the federal deduction for state and local taxes, and added that he hoped state taxes wouldn't rise in places like California and New York.

Trump, Mnuchin and congressional Republicans are also negotiating to reduce taxes for businesses that file their taxes through their owners' individual returns, but they will limit which firms qualify for lower rates.

*To view online [click here.](#)*

[Back](#)

**Workers would gain most under corporate tax cut, Heritage study says** [Back](#)

By Aaron Lorenzo | 09/11/2017 04:44 PM EDT

Workers stand to benefit greatly from a corporate tax rate reduction, according to new research findings from the conservative Heritage Foundation that dovetail with frequent comments by Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin.

The reason: the existing corporate income tax suppresses worker wages, said Heritage's Adam Michel.

"Most empirical estimates conclude that labor bears between 75 percent and 100 percent of the tax burden, with results in the literature ranging from 45 percent to 420 percent," he wrote in the paper.

"The average American household will share the benefits of a corporate rate cut through higher wages," Michel wrote.

That contrasts with other economists' findings that corporate taxes fall on the owners of capital, notably shareholders.

"While it is hard to say what most economists think about anything, a fair reading of the

literature suggests that while workers do bear some of the burden of the corporate tax, they don't bear much. Thus, they would not benefit much from a corporate tax cut," the centrist Tax Policy Center's Howard Gleckman recently posted online.

Michel concluded such assessments are dated. In today's open world economy in which capital can move easily across borders, the tax burden has shifted from owners of capital to labor, he wrote.

Mnuchin has often said that 70 percent of taxes on businesses gets passed on to workers. He and National Economic Council Director Gary Cohn are negotiating with GOP leaders in Congress to reduce the 35 percent corporate tax rate as low as possible; President Donald Trump is pushing for 15 percent.

**WHAT'S NEXT:** Mnuchin and Cohn are heading to Capitol Hill on Tuesday to discuss the budget and tax reform with Senate leaders.

To view online [click here](#).

[Back](#)

**GOP lawmakers jittery over lack of tax reform details** [Back](#)

By Colin Wilhelm and Aaron Lorenzo | 09/12/2017 05:06 AM EDT

Congressional Republicans came back to Washington ready and eager to work on tax reform, but they're still missing one thing: a plan.

That's triggered frustration among rank-and-file lawmakers who feel pressure from President Donald Trump to pass a tax reform bill but have seen no plans and worry they'll be backed into a corner on legislation they haven't even seen, much like they were with the failed Obamacare repeal earlier this summer.

"This time around there is no room for error. This has got to be a home run," Rep. Dave Brat (R-Va.) said, recalling the GOP's Obamacare fiasco. "I would hope everyone wants to know what's in it before you vote on it. That's the old [Nancy] Pelosi joke on health care, it turned into a colossal joke. 'You'll find out what's in it after we pass it.'"

A member of the tax-writing House Ways and Means Committee, speaking on condition of anonymity to speak freely said, "It is frustrating and concerning that we don't have the details and yet we're going to be asked in 60 days to vote on something,"

The member suggested that congressional and administration leaders negotiating a plan are holding back information either to avoid leaks or because they haven't found enough common ground yet to share anything.

There are still disagreements among negotiators in closed-door meetings over crucial issues, including:

- The corporate tax rate, with President Donald Trump pushing for a 15 percent rate that others see as unrealistic because of its cost.
- The lack of a clear path forward on the 2018 budget, which will be used as a vehicle for tax reform.
- Allowing businesses to immediately write off the costs of equipment and other big investments.

Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin and top Trump economic adviser Gary Cohn are set to meet with Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell and Senate Budget Committee members Tuesday to strategize on the budget. Mnuchin, Cohn and McConnell belong to the "Big Six" group of tax reform negotiators, along with House Speaker Paul Ryan, Ways and Means Chairman Kevin Brady and Senate Finance Committee Chairman Orrin Hatch.

Republican leaders have set a goal of releasing more details this month, but not before GOP members of Ways and Means get a look and give them the OK. But with each day that passes without a plan, the rank and file seem to get more on edge.

"We want a lot more clarity on tax reform," said Rep. Mark Meadows (R-N.C.), chairman of the staunchly conservative House Freedom Caucus.

Trump's proposal for a 15 percent tax rate for corporations and other businesses remains a major sticking point, sources familiar with the talks said. The rate is now 35 percent.

But Mnuchin signaled Tuesday the administration's position may be softening.

"I don't know if we'll be able to achieve that, given the budget issues, but we're going to get this down to a very competitive level," he said at an event hosted by CNBC.

The exact number is less important than getting tax reform done, he said.

Republican congressional leaders have mildly, but publicly, broken with Trump on the rate, which they'd initially hoped was a White House negotiating position rather than a concrete goal due to its cost.

"The president's been out there talking about a 15 percent rate, the House has talked about 20, but to get it down from 35 to 20 it's about \$100 billion per point," said Sen. John Thune (R-S.D.), the third ranking Senate Republican.

Ryan, in a public interview hosted by The New York Times last week, said it was more realistic to meet or beat the average corporate rate of industrialized countries, 22.5 percent.

"Those numbers are really hard to make work," Ryan said when asked about a 15 percent rate, though he added that he'd let tax writers do the "exact math" on what works for budgetary purposes.

As one conservative tax activist put it, "There's still a little more separation than we originally thought," indicating that Trump's 15 percent push set an unrealistic bar. The more he pledges it, as he did at a campaign-style rally last week in North Dakota, the harder it would be for him to shift, the activist said.

The House, Senate and White House also remain divided over the budget, which Republicans plan to use as the vehicle for tax reform to get around Democratic opposition in the Senate. The budget would include "reconciliation" instructions designed to avert a filibuster.

"A budget resolution only has to do with one thing and that's tax reform," Brat said. "So if you're going to vote on tax reform, OK what's it look like? And we don't know yet. So it's very hard to vote on a budget resolution, which has as its sole objective doing tax reform, when you don't know what tax reform looks like. And so that's our objection."

In addition, the negotiators continue to wrestle over full, immediate expensing of capital investments for businesses. They are at odds over whether the provision is necessary to juice the economy or too expensive when combined with tax cuts.

Two meetings last week of the Big Six — one on Tuesday with Trump and a follow-up on Thursday — yielded little in the way of movement, at least publicly.

Mnuchin, who is one of the negotiators, told POLITICO as he left the second meeting "we are very close" to finalizing a tax reform agreement, but offered no specifics. Mnuchin also said the administration and congressional leaders were "absolutely" close to releasing a plan, a week after claiming on television that "a very detailed plan" was being shared with members of Congress.

That was news to lawmakers.

"I would think I would be in a position to see that but I haven't," said Meadows, who is one of the members of Congress closest to the administration.

Ways and Means members say they know little more at this point.

"There's nothing concrete yet," said Rep. Carlos Curbelo (R-Fla.), though he added that he thought a framework would be set soon.

Rep. Jackie Walorski (R-Ind.), another Ways and Means member, said, "The president has some final decisions to make and I think when that happens then we roll."

Though congressional Republicans remain cautiously optimistic they will be able to deliver on their promise to overhaul the tax code, they know they have a limited opportunity and fear further delay will only allow interest groups to fully mobilize to fight any changes that might curb or eliminate tax provisions important to them.

Thune said basic questions have to be answered about how to measure the costs and benefits of tax cuts, as well as to what extent they are paid for by ending existing tax breaks.

"And that, obviously, is where you start getting into the controversy," Thune said. "Because every time you kill a deduction or preference or some exemption in the code there's some constituency for that."

To view online [click here](#).

[Back](#)

## **Trump unlikely to demand border wall for Dreamers bill** [Back](#)

By Seung Min Kim and Andrew Restuccia | 09/12/2017 10:54 AM EDT

President Donald Trump is sending public and private signals that he is ready to deal on legislation protecting young undocumented immigrants and won't demand funding for a border wall.

House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.) said Tuesday that Trump told her in private that he would sign the Dream Act — a bill that would provide a path to permanent legal status for so-called Dreamers — and that he wants "some border security." Meanwhile, a top White House aide indicated Tuesday that the Trump administration would not insist that legislation codifying protections for Dreamers be tied to border wall funding.

"We've been very clear: There is no wall in our DACA future. It's just not going to happen," Pelosi said in a small roundtable with reporters, recounting her conversations with Trump. "I think it's immoral, I think it's expensive and ineffective. And so we're not going to that place."

Pelosi said she and Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-N.Y.) pressed Trump on protection for Dreamers during the Oval Office meeting last week, with the two Democrats saying "we will not rest until it is passed as soon as possible."

"It was important to us, so we wanted some assurances that the president would sign the bill and that we would have some cooperation in passing such a bill," the California Democrat added. "That's been a major piece of that meeting."

Marc Short, the White House's director of legislative affairs, also said Tuesday that the administration is "most interested in getting border security" and that Trump believes a barrier such as a wall "is important to that equation of border security."

"Whether or not that is part of a DACA equation or whether or not that's another legislative vehicle — I don't want us to bind ourselves into a construct that makes reaching a conclusion on DACA impossible," Short said during a breakfast hosted by the Christian Science Monitor.

Those comments underscore Trump's desire to see Congress approve legislation that essentially would turn the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program — an Obama-era executive action that Trump said this month he would end — into law. The president has given Congress six months to come up with a legislative fix, and several Republicans interested in immigration policy have urged the administration to make clear publicly what it is seeking in any deal.

Though the administration seems to be conceding on the wall for now, it isn't for lack of trying. After a New York-New Jersey delegation meeting at the White House to discuss a local transportation project last week, Trump privately pressed Schumer on giving the administration resources for a wall in exchange for signing a Dreamer plan into law, according to one person familiar with the exchange.

Schumer stressed to Trump in the one-on-one conversation that Democrats absolutely would not support that proposal, reiterating that point again to the president when he asked Schumer a similar question about 10 minutes later, according to the source.

Democrats have repeatedly drawn a hard line against construction of a 2,000-mile barrier along the southern border with Mexico, either in government spending negotiations or in talks over how to codify DACA into law. Key Democrats have, however, indicated they will have to accept some modest border security measures to pick up support from congressional Republicans on a DACA fix.

"You pass it, I'll sign it, I want some border stuff.' That's what he said," Pelosi recounted. "We always want border stuff, so that's not a problem. Especially with all the technologies."

Pelosi didn't indicate what type of specific border security provisions would be palatable to most Democrats, saying her party was focused on a "clean" Dream Act and pressuring GOP lawmakers, particularly moderates, to get on board.

House Democrats will launch a discharge petition effort later this month to try to force the issue to the floor, and Pelosi said they will focus on persuading the roughly two dozen House Republicans who have endorsed a more conservative version of the Dream Act sponsored by Rep. Carlos Curbelo (R-Fla.). That legislation, Pelosi said in the reporters' roundtable, was "not good enough."

Apart from the border wall, a host of other controversial policies are likely to arise as potential tradeoffs for legislation concerning DACA.

GOP Sens. Tom Cotton of Arkansas and David Perdue of Georgia have said they would like to see their bill that enacts deep cuts to legal immigration levels — legislation endorsed by the White House — attached to any DACA bill. Some Senate Republicans have looked at tougher enforcement measures, such as a broader E-Verify system to prevent businesses from hiring workers without legal status. Conservative Republicans may also continue to insist on a wall.

Meanwhile, Democrats have furiously strategized behind the scenes about how to push the Dreamer issue, especially with must-pass legislation facing Congress throughout the rest of the year.

Some Democrats privately mulled trying to attach legislation that would grant legal status to DACA recipients serving in the military as part of the National Defense Authorization Act, which the Senate is taking up this week, according to multiple sources.

But Democrats determined that they didn't want to risk angering Senate Armed Services Committee Chairman John McCain (R-Ariz.) — for whom the defense bill is a top priority —



particularly because McCain is a longtime champion of comprehensive immigration reform and would be a critical GOP ally in a legislative battle over Dreamers, the sources said.

The Pentagon [said](#) last week that about 900 people currently in the military, or who have enlisted, have the temporary DACA protections, according to the Associated Press.

Established by President Barack Obama in 2012, the DACA program currently grants temporary work permits and protections from deportation to about 690,000 undocumented immigrants who entered the country as minors. Though he moved to end the program, Trump has publicly voiced concern about the fate of the hundreds of thousands of young people who are protected by it. He [wrote on Twitter](#) last week that he would "revisit the issue" if Congress fails to act.

White House aides have long considered trying to get Democrats to support funding a border wall — a key pledge of Trump's during the 2016 campaign — in exchange for moving forward with a Dreamers bill. But, amid a massive public backlash over Trump's decision to end DACA, the president has grown increasingly eager for a legislative solution to that issue.

Short added later at the breakfast that the president remains committed to building the border wall.

Meanwhile, Pelosi hinted that Obama, who last week condemned Trump's decision to unilaterally end DACA, would soon become more vocal in other political battles, particularly the midterm elections.

"He has made clear his priority was to speak out first and foremost on the Dreamers because this was really wrong," Pelosi said Tuesday. "At some point, I'm hopeful that he will be helpful to our House and Senate efforts, and I think he will."

*To view online [click here](#).*

[Back](#)

**Pentagon details negative impacts of a CR [Back](#)**

By Gregory Hellman | 09/11/2017 07:12 PM EDT

The Defense Department will need to cancel scheduled training, curtail hiring and suffer reduced readiness and increased acquisition costs under a continuing spending resolution, the Pentagon [tells](#) the Senate Armed Services Committee.

On Friday, Congress approved a massive spending package with a continuing resolution through Dec. 8. And Defense Secretary Jim Mattis spells out specific effects of it in a letter obtained by POLITICO.

Specifically, the Pentagon will have to reduce training. For example, a lack of funds for the Air Force to stand up two F-16 squadrons under the CR will prevent the service from training enough pilots to begin its readiness recovery, Mattis says.

Additionally, Mattis says, the Navy will have to delay the induction of 11 ships, disrupting maintenance schedules and reducing flying hours and steaming days.

Acquisition costs will also increase under the CR, Mattis says. In addition to the inability to start new programs, costs grow when the Pentagon is forced to enter short-term contracts.

On the personnel side, the Pentagon will need to curtail most hiring, including pilots, maintainers, cyber experts and nuclear trained personnel, Mattis adds.

Despite the detrimental effects, a CR does, however, avoid a government shutdown and provides Congress an opportunity to strike a deal lifting the defense budget caps, Mattis writes.

"Long term CRs impact the readiness of our forces and their equipment at a time when security threats are extraordinarily high," he says.

Senate Armed Services Chairman [John McCain](#) (R-Ariz.) and ranking Democrat [Jack Reed](#) of Rhode Island [had requested](#) the Pentagon outline the consequences of a CR.

*To view online [click here](#).*

[Back](#)

**Senate votes to advance NDAA [Back](#)**

By Connor O'Brien | 09/11/2017 06:15 PM EDT

The Senate today easily cleared its first procedural hurdle to considering the National Defense Authorization Act.

Senators voted 89 to 3 to move forward with the annual defense policy measure [H.R. 2810 \(115\)](#). Sixty votes were needed to proceed.

The legislation hit the Senate floor after several delays. It's not yet clear if the Senate will finish debate in just one week, but Majority Leader [Mitch McConnell](#) (R-Ky.) said on the Senate floor that "members from both sides will have opportunities" to propose amendments.

"Ultimately, we'll keep working to find consensus so that we can pass this critical defense legislation without further delay," McConnell said.

Senate Minority Leader [Chuck Schumer](#) (D-N.Y.) said he hoped Senate Armed Services Chairman [John McCain](#) (R-Ariz.) and ranking Democrat [Jack Reed](#) of Rhode Island could "build a strong manager's package that will be acceptable to both sides."

"We Democrats want to work in a constructive and productive manner to process as many of these amendments as possible and work through even the most difficult of issues," Schumer said

So far, more than 400 amendments have been filed for floor consideration.

The text of the Senate bill is [here](#). The Armed Services Committee report is [here](#). And a summary of the legislation is [here](#).

To view online [click here](#).

[Back](#)

## **Trump promise on expanded school choice falls flat [Back](#)**

By Caitlin Emma | 09/12/2017 05:05 AM EDT

President Donald Trump's campaign pledge to expand school choice for millions of working class families isn't happening — at least not in the foreseeable future.

For months, the Trump administration has eyed a first-of-its-kind federal tax credit to help families pay for private school. If it were tucked into a larger tax bill, proponents argued, it could pass with just 51 Senate votes. But Republicans have been unable to pull off any significant legislative wins this year and appear unlikely to add a contentious provision to a tax bill that could complicate its already fraught politics.

And the White House has said nothing about the issue for months.

"Republicans are desperate for a victory and they're desperate to get tax reform done," said Michael Petrilli, president of a conservative education think tank, the Thomas B. Fordham Institute. "Anything that looks like a voucher will lose them votes."

Critics [say](#) a federal tax credit would be a "back door voucher," diverting funds from struggling public schools. But 18 states have passed their own programs, allowing individuals and corporations to receive a state tax credit in exchange for donations to scholarship-granting entities, which then award funds to help disadvantaged families pay for private school.

A short-term debt ceiling and spending deal [reached](#) by Trump and Democrats last week opens a window for Congress to tackle a tax overhaul. But there are still no details of that plan, and Republicans must agree on a fiscal 2018 budget resolution that includes instructions for tax changes if they want to pass them with a simple majority in the Senate.

Still, fiscal hawks are already worried that a school tax credit will add to the final cost of a tax bill, a congressional aide recently [told POLITICO](#). And those working on the tax overhaul fear school choice will complicate the overarching goal: streamlining and simplifying the tax code.

"This is something that would run counter to that effort," said Lindsey Burke, director of the Center for Education Policy at the conservative Heritage Foundation. Heritage hasn't supported a federal tax credit scholarship program out of concern that it would increase regulations over private schools, among other things.

Expanding school choice is a nonstarter with House and Senate appropriators. So far, they've rejected more than \$1 billion proposed in Trump's budget to allow greater school choice, aside from extra support for charter schools.

Experts can't see a school tax credit passing as a standalone bill, since efforts to broadly expand school choice have died in Congress with strong opposition from Democrats and moderate Republicans. The politics only get more complicated as Republicans may fight next year to maintain their majority during the congressional midterms.

A White House spokesman said the president is still "committed to pursuing a robust school choice proposal." But in recent remarks, Trump has said, "we must make the tax code as simple as possible."

Julia Lawless, a spokeswoman for Senate Finance Chairman [Orrin Hatch](#) (R-Utah), said the details of a tax package will be worked out in the coming months. Hatch is "focused on developing a tax reform package that will provide more relief to the middle class, increase wages and job growth here at home, and ensure American businesses can compete in global markets," she said.

Emily Schillinger, spokeswoman for the tax-writing House Ways and Means Committee, would not say whether a school tax credit was on the table, but said "members are working to simplify our broken, complex tax code and specifically streamline the education benefits to be more effective and efficient."

Failure to pass a federal tax credit scholarship program would most certainly be a big disappointment for Education Secretary Betsy DeVos, a longtime advocate for such an investment. DeVos' spokeswoman didn't respond to a request for comment.

In June, POLITICO reported that the Trump administration invited school choice advocates to the White House to discuss action on school choice, particularly a federal tax credit scholarship program. DeVos and top White House adviser Kellyanne Conway were in attendance.

But since then, the White House has been radio silent on the topic, according to sources familiar with the meeting. And to school choice advocates, that's not a good sign.

"The president spent a lot of time talking about this on the campaign trail," said one advocate close to the discussions. "We knew from the beginning that the administration was going to have to insist on it. ... That's the one big unknown at this point."

Advocates who support the notion of a federal program say it's too early to write the obituary. They're looking for another vehicle to pass it or to budget reconciliation down the line. And they insist it remains a passion of Trump, DeVos and Vice President Mike Pence, who oversaw a dramatic expansion of school choice in Indiana while he was governor.

"I think given the current environment, while it's a possibility, it's a much longer shot than it used to be," said another advocate. "But I remain cautiously hopeful."

States will likely continue to be the most fertile ground for school choice expansion. Advocates clinging to optimism point to the largely blue state of Illinois, which recently enacted its own state tax credit scholarship program after a fierce legislative fight. If it can get done there, it can happen in Congress, advocates say. But school choice measures in the red state of Texas have continually failed amid reservations from Republican state lawmakers concerned about

stripping resources from rural public schools.

Some education experts believe narrower ideas backed by Heritage, like expanding school choice for military families or Native American children, could happen in some form down the line. But without strong support from a White House that can successfully convince Republicans to get on board, Trump's campaign pledge is "effectively dead," Petrilli said.

"If we were talking about a president who had some real political muscle and popularity and made it clear this was something he cared about, then maybe," he said. "But we don't have that president."

To view online [click here](#).

[Back](#)

### **Census reports 3.2 percent hike in median household income for 2016** [Back](#)

By Timothy Noah | 09/12/2017 10:56 AM EDT

U.S. median household income rose in 2016 to \$59,039, a 3.2 percent increase over 2015, the Census Bureau [reported](#).

But median earnings for men and women who worked full-time over the entire year were essentially unchanged after inflation, with men earning \$51,640 and women earning \$44,544.

The total number of people working full-time over the entire year rose by 2.2 million in 2016, and the total number reporting earnings of any kind rose 1.2 million. This, the Census Bureau observed, suggested "a shift from part-year, part-time work status to full-time, year-round work."

Among men with earnings of any kind, 74.8 percent worked full-time through 2016, an increase over 73.9 percent in 2015. The corresponding proportion for women was 62.2 percent, an increase over 61.3 percent in 2015.

Income inequality, as measured by the Gini index, was essentially unchanged in 2016, the Census report said, even when adjusted for household size. The poverty rate was 12.7 percent, down from 13.5 percent in 2015 and 14.8 percent in 2014 and just a whisker higher than where it stood in 2007 on the eve of the Great Recession.

To view online [click here](#).

[Back](#)

### **CREW sues Treasury for details on Mnuchin's flight to Kentucky with wife** [Back](#)

By Victoria Guida | 09/11/2017 02:35 PM EDT

Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington, an ethics watchdog, today [sued](#) the Treasury Department for documents related to Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin's use of a

government plane to fly to Kentucky with his wife.

CREW requested that Treasury expedite its request under the Freedom of Information Act, but the department has not responded, according to the group.

Mnuchin and his wife, Louise Linton, flew to Lexington, Ky., on Aug. 21, on the day of the solar eclipse.

"We filed an expedited FOIA request because Americans deserve more information to determine whether there has been misuse of government resources," CREW Executive Director Noah Bookbinder said in the release. "We're suing because the government has so far failed even to respond."

The trip garnered particular attention after Linton posted an image of her exiting the plane in designer clothing.

A Treasury spokesperson said the department does not comment on litigation.

*To view online [click here](#).*

[Back](#)

**Can the markets rescue the federal flood insurance program? [Back](#)**

By Zachary Warmbrodt | 09/12/2017 05:05 AM EDT

Hurricanes Harvey and Irma are putting to the test a novel approach to how the federal government and taxpayers share the costs of natural disasters with the private sector.

Catastrophic flooding along the Gulf Coast is expected to trigger a payout of up to \$1 billion from a group of reinsurers to the National Flood Insurance Program, which acquired the coverage in January for about \$150 million.

Funds that the program receives from the reinsurers will help pay claims to homeowners that rely on the government for protection against the financial risks of flooding — a critical service that has left the NFIP \$25 billion in debt after an earlier series of devastating storms.

The reinsurance transaction was the biggest yet for the program, and it has left some policymakers and investors eager for more.

As Congress has considered ways to overhaul the insurance program over the last several months, House and Senate lawmakers have drafted proposals that would encourage it to do more to share flood risks through reinsurance and securities.

That has sparked a debate about the extent to which it makes sense for the government to rely on the financial markets to help manage economic perils. Critics say that turning to the markets could end up being a worse deal for taxpayers compared to relatively cheap government funding. Advocates argue that it's an important step in keeping the program from sinking further into the red.

"If they had done it over the last 15-20 years, we wouldn't have the debt we have right now," said Rep. [Blaine Luetkemeyer](#) (R-Mo.), one of the most outspoken advocates for using private capital to help offset the program's growing obligations to the Treasury.

Further integrating the financial markets into the program is just one of many proposals on the table for lawmakers who are struggling to agree on ways to shore up an insurance program.

FEMA has had the authority to tap into the markets to offset its flood risks for years but has only recently started making deals. It tested the waters with a small reinsurance acquisition in 2016, then followed up in January with agreements involving 25 reinsurers covering \$1.04 billion in flood risk. The reinsurance could be triggered when losses hit \$4 billion.

A potential payout from the reinsurance could be key to determining how quickly the flood insurance program will need to seek an increase in its borrowing authority, which was last raised to around \$30 billion after Hurricane Sandy. FEMA has said it had \$1.7 billion available to pay claims from Harvey plus \$5.8 billion in remaining borrowing authority.

A FEMA spokeswoman declined to speculate on the impact of Harvey but said the agency viewed this year's reinsurance acquisition as a success that officials planned to build upon for another reinsurance placement in January 2018.

In a blog [post](#) earlier this year, FEMA's deputy associate administrator for insurance and mitigation, Roy Wright, said securing reinsurance was a "key step toward achieving the NFIP's long-term vision of building a stronger financial framework." He has called the reinsurance transaction a "cornerstone reinsurance placement."

In a 2015 report to Congress assembled with help from Guy Carpenter, which later became the flood program's reinsurance broker, FEMA said reinsurance would be a more expensive alternative to Treasury debt. But it added that a significant reinsurance program would help stabilize the NFIP's finances and reduce the probability of borrowing after large flood events.

"If Harvey ends up hitting this program, they're going to see that reinsurers are going to respond pretty quickly to them and put needed cash in their hand when they need it most," said Guy Carpenter managing director Jake Clark. "We want to see more of it."

Dennis Burke, vice president of the Reinsurance Association of America, said it was a long-term play by reinsurers who would not likely be deterred by one sizable loss out of the gate.

"Our members write flood insurance around the world," he said. "The opportunity to participate in the flood insurance market in the U.S. is something they've been interested in for a while. They wrote this one contract for the first time and it got hit. ... The contract was underwritten and priced as though this was not a common, everyday experience. We anticipate the underwriters will continue to look at it based upon the probabilities and risks."

The \$600 billion reinsurance market is not necessarily the only game in town.

FEMA hasn't yet started to tap the broader capital markets, but House and Senate bills would try to make clear that the agency could look beyond traditional reinsurance. Bills under

consideration include explicit references to tools including catastrophe bonds and insurance-linked securities.

"There's probably \$35 trillion in global pension fund assets out there," said Daniel Stander, global managing director at risk modeling company RMS. "There is appetite amongst investors to take some of that capital and invest it in asset classes that are not correlated to the global economy. Whether the wind blows or not has nothing to do with the price of oil, the price of property or the price of equities."

Luetkemeyer's bill and another, [S. 1313 \(115\)](#), from Sens. [Bill Cassidy](#) (R-La.) and [Kirsten Gillibrand](#) (D-N.Y.) would require FEMA to annually cede part of the flood insurance program's risk to private reinsurance or the capital markets.

Luetkemeyer said in an interview that private-sector coverage would "protect the program financially and protect the taxpayers from having to be the backstop." The Congressional Budget Office has [estimated](#) that the provision in his bill requiring FEMA to shift risk to the markets would have no significant effect on the amount of reinsurance coverage that it buys or on NFIP spending because the agency intended to continue purchasing reinsurance.

But the proposal has run into resistance from other lawmakers who argue that forcing FEMA to go to the market might not result in the best deal for the flood insurance program.

When the House Financial Services Committee considered Luetkemeyer's bill, [H.R. 2246 \(115\)](#), in June, the panel's top Democrat, [Maxine Waters](#) (D-Calif.), said the proposal made "no sense" because the 2012 flood insurance law that she co-authored clarified FEMA's authority to purchase reinsurance.

She said the bill would legislate "complicated and burdensome" metrics that FEMA would have to follow, potentially giving reinsurers leverage to demand higher premiums.

Rep. [Carolyn Maloney](#) (D-N.Y.) said at the same committee meeting that the requirement would be a "worse deal for taxpayers."

"From a financial perspective it only makes sense for FEMA to use a private reinsurer if the annual premiums that FEMA would pay on the reinsurance are less than the annual interest payments that FEMA pays to the Treasury right now," she said. "Why in the world do we want to require them to pay more?"

*To view online [click here](#).*

[Back](#)

**DOE awards grid security grants to improve bug patching and incident response [Back](#)**

By Eric Geller | 09/12/2017 10:57 AM EDT

The Department of Energy today announced \$50 million in grants to improve the security and resiliency of the electric grid.



Seven of the DOE grants will go to resiliency, while 20 will go to cybersecurity.

The [cyber grants](#) will fund projects covering vulnerability mitigation, incident response efforts and secure grid management communications.

Nine national laboratories will administer the grants, in partnership with a wide range of military, academic and corporate partners.

Oak Ridge National Laboratory in Oak Ridge, Tenn., and its partners will develop "a tool to verify the integrity of firmware used in energy delivery system devices, without taking the equipment offline."

Pacific Northwest National Laboratory in Richland, Wash., will oversee an effort to "develop a secure and flexible data exchange approach for communication between control centers."

"A resilient, reliable, and secure power grid is essential to the Nation's security, economy, and the vital services that Americans depend on every day," Energy Secretary Rick Perry said in a statement.

"By leveraging the world-class innovation of the National Laboratories and their partners," he added, "this investment will keep us moving forward to create yet more real-world capabilities that the energy sector can put into practice to continue improving the resilience and security of the country's critical energy infrastructure."

To view online [click here](#).

[Back](#)

**Senate Democrats hold onto majority hopes** [Back](#)

By Kevin Robillard and Gabriel Debenedetti | 09/12/2017 05:04 AM EDT

Senate Democrats are already three seats short of a majority and must play defense in 10 Trump states next year. But the top Democratic senators in charge of planning for the 2018 elections are refusing to publicly give up hope of taking back the chamber, in an improbable but audacious nod to the friendly political environment developing ahead of the midterms.

Reelecting red-state Democratic incumbents is still the top priority for Senate Minority Leader [Chuck Schumer](#) and DSCC Chairman [Chris Van Hollen](#). But they have also begun investigating opportunities to play offense on GOP turf, polling and investigating potential candidates in states like Texas, Tennessee and Alabama with the Republican Party facing a tough national environment.

The Democratic effort began well before a recent burst of bad news for Senate Republicans. But with former White House chief strategist Steve Bannon plotting primary challenges against incumbents, Tennessee Sen. [Bob Corker](#) mulling retirement, and Republicans fighting a bitter and expensive primary in Alabama's special Senate election, Democrats have begun looking even more closely at picking off a surprise Senate seat — and maybe the majority — next year.

"Our priority is to make sure that we win all our incumbent races," Van Hollen said in an August interview. Then, "we have great pickup opportunities in Nevada and Arizona," he continued. "And we have good candidates in other states, and we're going to have more. We're going to work to maximize our opportunities."

Much of the insistence is for donors' benefit, said a handful of top party operatives: Closing the door on flipping a chamber will make it much harder to raise cash in 2018, especially with House Democrats smelling opportunity to win back the majority there.

But the assertion also reflects a new kind of why-not-try confidence among Senate Democrats, who think the pieces have fallen in place for a potential wave and want to be ready.

Winning back the Senate would essentially require Democrats to draw a straight flush, followed by four-of-a-kind. All 10 Democratic senators from Trump states would need to secure reelection, and the party is particularly worried about defending its incumbents in Indiana, Missouri and Florida. Then, Democrats would need to defeat not just Nevada Sen. [Dean Heller](#) and Arizona Sen. [Jeff Flake](#), but also find a third seat from six deep-red, Republican-held states.

This wouldn't be the first time Democrats prepped for a wave that never came. In 2016, they got top-tier recruits in Arkansas and Kentucky in the form of former Arkansas U.S. Attorney Conner Eldridge and Lexington, Ky., Mayor Jim Gray. Both men lost by double-digits, despite outrunning Hillary Clinton.

Republicans, for their part, don't find Schumer's plotting plausible.

"Chuck Schumer has said for years that Democrats will win the Senate, and that claim is no longer funny, but just plain sad," NRSC spokeswoman Katie Martin said. "There are 25 Democrats up for reelect, with 10 of those in states President [Donald] Trump won. Either Schumer has trouble with math or he has trouble living in reality."

The most immediate opportunity for Democrats may come in Alabama. Some Republican operatives privately fear former Supreme Court Justice Roy Moore could lose the general election if he defeats incumbent GOP Sen. [Luther Strange](#) in the primary. Democrats are wary of turning a race in such a tough state into a national referendum, and they worry that it might be impossible to boost former U.S. Attorney Doug Jones over the hump. But the opportunity to boost Jones, a civil rights attorney who won fame prosecuting members of the KKK, against the ultra-conservative Moore may be too tempting to pass up.

National Democrats still have no immediate plans to get involved in Alabama, and the candidate says he's ready to run either way.

"It doesn't really matter whether I've got help or not," Jones said in an interview. "I'm running as a Democrat. The other side is going to try to tag me however they're going to tag me."

The next opportunity comes in Texas, where Rep. [Beto O'Rourke](#) has already announced a challenge to incumbent Sen. [Ted Cruz](#). Democrats are pleasantly surprised by O'Rourke's strong online fundraising, and he has impressed national operatives with constant campaigning

throughout the state.

Still, O'Rourke's refusal to accept PAC money frustrates strategists who think he'll need every penny possible to compete in an ultra-expensive state. Democratic outside groups have recently shied away from spending heavily in big states, with the DSCC and Senate Majority PAC pulling out of Florida last fall.

But Van Hollen said the committee would be ready to back up O'Rourke if he can make the race competitive.

"If Texas becomes clearly competitive, we'll be able to find the resources," he said.

But the state Democrats are most openly excited about is Tennessee. In conversations with other senators — in which he refuses to rule out winning back the Senate — Schumer often brings up Corker's seat, which Senate operatives regard as the white whale of 2018.

As DSCC chair in 2006, Schumer saw Corker win his seat by just 3 points. Fellow senators and campaign pros have taken to wondering whether former Gov. Phil Bredesen might be interested in running. (The 73-year-old has shown no intention of jumping in.)

Even if Bredesen stays out, Democrats seem content with an announced candidate against Corker: James Mackler, a 44-year-old lawyer who joined the military after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, flew Black Hawk helicopters and fought in the Iraq War, and then joined the JAG Corps and prosecuted sexual assault cases. Mackler made the rounds at the DSCC donor retreat in Martha's Vineyard, making a favorable impression on donors and lending his candidacy extra legitimacy, some said.

In an interview, Mackler said he thought Tennesseans and national Democrats both were ready to get behind a candidate with his "proven track record of service and sacrifice." Mackler attacked Corker as overly partisan, and said the Tennessean's criticisms of Trump weren't backed up by actions.

"He'll vote for whatever his party puts in front of him," he said, referencing a quote where Corker dismissed the substance of an Obamacare repeal bill. "I'm an outsider. I'm not the Democratic Party."

While Corker's occasional critiques of the president haven't satisfied Mackler, they have prompted some Republicans to muse about a primary challenge. On Monday, Corker said he wasn't committed to running for reelection.

"I think everyone in the Volunteer State knows, as they did in 2012, that running for reelection has never been an automatic for me," Corker said in a statement. "While we are in a strong position, I am still contemplating the future and will make a decision at the appropriate time."

That Democrats are even considering offensive tactics, rather than preparing to hemorrhage losses in red states, is a reflection of how strongly they feel about their 2018 chances despite the Republican tilt of the Senate map.

The DSCC believes Democrats have a clear upper hand on health care and that fewer top-tier candidates than expected are challenging Democratic incumbents. They have eagerly watched Trump's spat with Heller and war with Flake and wondered if such intra-GOP conflict could spread.

"We have a tough political map," Van Hollen said. "This is a year where anything can happen."

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[Back](#)

## **POLITICO Pro New Jersey: Christie defends Trump's delay in declaring opioid epidemic a national emergency [Back](#)**

By Katie Jennings | 09/12/2017 11:33 AM EDT

New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie on Monday defended President Donald Trump for not yet declaring the nation's opioid epidemic a national emergency, saying he was at the White House last week to discuss the issue with the president's senior staff.

It has been more than a month since Trump said he [intended](#) to declare the opioid crisis a national emergency based on the recommendation of a presidential commission chaired by Christie. The president, however, has yet to make a formal declaration.

"I was just at the White House last week to discuss this with the president's senior staff. I know they are focused on putting a number of the recommendations that the commission has made in their interim report into place," Christie told "PBS NewsHour" host Judy Woodruff. "I know the president and I know his heart on this, and I know he's ready to do what needs to be done to get this done the right way."

Pressed to explain the unusual delay between Trump's statement and the formal declaration, Christie said the president was busy dealing with the two hurricanes that have ravaged the southern United States in recent weeks.

"We've had two major national emergencies intervene since August, with Hurricane Harvey and now Hurricane Irma. The administration is focused on making sure that's dealt with, and they're also on a parallel track working on making sure that we efficiently and effectively implement the recommendations in the interim report of the commission," Christie said. "I am committed to urging the president to move as quickly as possible, and he's told me that's exactly what he's instructed his staff to do."

*This story first appeared on [POLITICO Pro New Jersey](#) on Sept. 11, 2017.*

To view online [click here](#).

[Back](#)

**DOL to evaluate apprenticeship grants [Back](#)**

By Ian Kullgren | 09/12/2017 11:35 AM EDT

The Labor Department said today it will conduct a formal evaluation of one of its core apprenticeship initiatives.

In a [notice](#) to be published in the Federal Register Wednesday, DOL will announce plans to evaluate the American Apprenticeship Initiative, a fund created by President Barack Obama. The \$175 million in one-time funds awarded to 46 companies came from participation fees for H-1B visas for high-tech foreign workers.

DOL said it will evaluate how grants were developed, the outcomes for workers, return on investments for companies and recruitment processes.

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[Back](#)

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**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** BuzzFeed News: Status of August review of \$100K+ grants  
**Received:** 2017-11-29T13:41:01-05:00

Ms. Swift

OSMRE communications indicated you were the contact for this query. I'm a science reporter at BuzzFeed News. I'm writing to enquire about the Aug. 18 request by Glenda Owens at OSMRE, asking the NAS to halt a study, S16AC20034, citing an agency review of grants of more than \$100,000 in funding.

Can DOI update us on the status of this review? Has it been started, completed, or is underway in any fashion? Is there anyone at the agency who can explain how the review is structured? We wonder a) how many review sessions have been held b) who is doing the reviewing and c) how many studies are included in this review.

We recently received a FOIA response on this topic from your agency, and are planning a story on the review request. It would be great to get any update on its status and the questions I mentioned (or whatever else you think noteworthy on the topic) before the end of the work week.

Thanks for any help,

Dan Vergano  
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**Sent:** 2017-10-02T14:25:14-04:00  
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**Subject:** Cape Wind FOIA's  
**Received:** 2017-10-02T14:25:20-04:00

BOEM has received two FOIA requests regarding Cape Wind's (second) request to suspend it's lease. As such, we plan to post Cape Wind's letter to our website here: <https://www.boem.gov/Massachusetts-Cape-Wind/>. Our FOIA office and the SOL are okay with this approach as is A/S Kate Macgregor.

Per BOEM's FOIA office, if they receive a third FOIA request, we are required to post the letter to BOEM's website anyway, though it could be posted to our FOIA page instead of our Cape Wind page.

Any concerns from DOI?

**To:** Interior\_Press@ios.doi.gov[Interior\_Press@ios.doi.gov]; Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Eilperin, Juliet  
**Sent:** 2017-12-01T13:10:31-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** checking in on a few fronts  
**Received:** 2017-12-01T13:10:39-05:00

Dear All,

I had a few questions for different stories, so I thought it's easiest if I put them in one email.

1. First, I just published this piece about how USDA confirmed that the department did not specifically recommend any Forest Land be removed from Bears Ears or four other national monuments under review, and I just wanted to see if DOI wanted to comment:  
<http://wapo.st/2Br1U3Q>
2. Second, I'd love to get those stats, if it's possible, on how the rate of FOIA requests has increased since January, compared to the year before.
3. Three, it appears that regional NPS FOIA officers are now saying that all FOIA requests are being processed through the Office of the Secretary, which is a change from just a couple of weeks ago. Is it possible to get a comment on why this policy shift occurred?
4. Four, if you have any further comments on the draft documents on Bears Ears and Grand Staircase-Escalante, now that other outlets have reported on this, let me know.

I am best reached via email or cell, (b) (6).

Thanks, Juliet

Juliet Eilperin  
Senior National Affairs Correspondent  
Washington Post  
[Juliet.eilperin@washpost.com](mailto:Juliet.eilperin@washpost.com)  
(O) 202-334-7774  
(C) (b) (6)  
@eilperin

**To:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Sarah Emerson  
**Sent:** 2017-09-12T18:11:50-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Comment on new Fagre/Zuckerberg FOIA docs  
**Received:** 2017-09-12T19:44:52-04:00

Hi Heather,

Would you care to comment on new USGS FOIA docs that we received pertaining to Dan Fagre's cancelled meeting with Mark Zuckerberg?

Emails definitively show that USGS had nothing to do with Fagre's dismissal. Instead, the finger is pointed at DOI. I know you've given a statement on this, saying that his dismissal was a matter of government resources.

This reasoning doesn't make sense to me. If USGS was happy to let Fagre's join the tour, why did you say it was a matter of properly allocating government resources? Emails show they were thrilled by the opportunity. Your statement doesn't match up here—his participation didn't seem to be a problem for USGS, and yet DOI made the decision to uninvite him.

Care to clarify?

Thanks,  
Sarah

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Sarah Emerson  
Writer, MOTHERBOARD

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VICE Media Group  
90 N. 11th St.  
Brooklyn, NY 11211  
Cell/Signal: (b) (6)  
[@sarahnemerson](https://twitter.com/sarahnemerson)

**To:** Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]; Interior Press[interior\_press@ios.doi.gov]; OS, OS FOIA[osfoia@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Nick Juliano[njuliano@politico.com]; Anthony Adragna[aadragna@politico.com]  
**From:** Esther Whieldon  
**Sent:** 2017-07-25T18:02:05-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Comment on Zinke's calendar postings?  
**Received:** 2017-07-25T18:02:31-04:00  
[17-00792ab.pdf](#)  
[17-00792ca Electronic Enclosure.pdf](#)

Details in Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke's calendars have become sparser. The agency's Freedom of Information Act Office has posted Zinke's calendar from March through June, but only one of those -- April -- offers topic descriptions and names of non-staff attendees of the meetings.

Did the secretary change his policy on what parts of the calendar he makes available or how the calendar is kept? A response, tonight, if possible would be great but I am interested in finding out the answer in general even after deadline. Thanks, Esther

---

**From:** Esther Whieldon  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 25, 2017 5:30 PM  
**To:** Nick Juliano  
**Subject:** Fw: FOIA Request - Final Response Letter

---

**From:** karmen\_young@ios.doi.gov <karmen\_young@ios.doi.gov> on behalf of OS, OS FOIA <osfoia@ios.doi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 25, 2017 4:47 PM  
**To:** Esther Whieldon  
**Subject:** FOIA Request - Final Response Letter

Dear Ms. Whieldon,

Please find attached the final response letter and electronic enclosures for FOIA request OS-2017-00792.

v/r,  
Karmen

--

Department of the Interior  
Office of the Secretary, FOIA Office  
1849 C Street, NW, MS-7328  
Washington, D.C. 20240  
[os\\_foia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:os_foia@ios.doi.gov)  
(202) 513-0765 - phone  
(202) 219-2374 - fax

**To:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov];  
interior\_press@ios.doi.gov[interior\_press@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Crandall, Megan[mcrandal@blm.gov]  
**From:** Pamela King  
**Sent:** 2017-11-21T14:26:49-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Deadline 5 pm eastern -- FOIA lawsuits  
**Received:** 2017-11-21T14:27:24-05:00  
[2017.11.20 FOIA CE SO3354 DOI Complaint.pdf](#)  
[2017.11.20 FOIA CE SO3354 BLM Complaint.pdf](#)

Good afternoon,

I'm writing up a quick story about two lawsuits related to requests for records and reports associated with S.O. 3354. Is Interior or BLM able to comment?

Thank you,

**Pamela King**  
E&E News reporter  
[pking@eenews.net](mailto:pking@eenews.net)  
202-446-0458 (office)  
(b) (6) (mobile)  
[@pamelalauren](#)

#### **E&E NEWS**

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Energywire, Climatewire, Greenwire, E&E Daily, E&E News PM

**To:** Hinson, Alex[alex\_hinson@ios.doi.gov]; Caroline Boulton[caroline\_boulton@ios.doi.gov]; Daniel Jorjani[daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov]; David Bernhardt[dwbernhardt@ios.doi.gov]; Douglas Domenech[douglas\_domenech@ios.doi.gov]; Eli Nachmany[eli\_nachmany@ios.doi.gov]; Leila Getto[leila\_getto@ios.doi.gov]; James Cason[james\_cason@ios.doi.gov]; John Tanner[john\_tanner@ios.doi.gov]; Laura Rigas[laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov]; Magallanes, Downey[downey\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov]; Lori Mashburn[lori\_mashburn@ios.doi.gov]; Micah Chambers[micah\_chambers@ios.doi.gov]; Newell, Russell[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov]; Scott Hommel[scott\_hommel@ios.doi.gov]; Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]; Aaron Thiele[aaron\_thiele@ios.doi.gov]; Willens, Todd[todd\_willens@ios.doi.gov]; Natalie Davis[natalie\_davis@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Davis, Natalie  
**Sent:** 2017-12-07T11:12:47-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** DOI Cabinet Affairs Report 12/7  
**Received:** 2017-12-07T11:12:57-05:00  
[DAILY UPDATE FOR CABINET AFFAIRS 12-07-17.docx](#)

## **DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR DAILY UPDATE FOR CABINET AFFAIRS – 12/07/17**

Lori Mashburn, White House Liaison  
Natalie Davis, Special Assistant to the Secretary

### **STATUS OF THE SECRETARY**

THIS WEEK:

Today: Internal meetings

- 12/8 – Meeting with Governor Martinez

### **STATUS OF THE DEPUTY SECRETARY**

12/7-12/8 : The Dep Sec is at a policy planning session in Shepherdstown, WV with Senior Leadership.

### **WH COMMS REPORT**

#### **Press Inquiries:**

Many small and logistical inquiries.

- **The HILL: (Devin Henry) – REQUEST--** I'm writing a story for tomorrow's newspaper about the outdoors industry's reaction to the monuments declaration (Patagonia in particular, REI and others along the way). I plan to use Secretary Zinke's response from yesterday's press call, but I wanted to see if you have anything else you'd like to add. When writing the monuments plan, how much stock did Interior put into opposition from outdoors retailers? What's the response to such confrontational statements from an industry that highlights its economic impact on the US? And one that endorsed Secretary Zinke back from his House days, and for the Interior spot?—**RESPONSE--** There's certainly a separation between the many honest people in the outdoor industry and those who spend millions of dollars to lie to the American people in a shameful effort to boost the sales of their foreign-made products. The Secretary has always valued the outdoor rec economy and continues to work with the industry to expand access for hunting, fishing, motorized and nonmotorized

recreation, and traditional uses. Further, much like Tribes, the industry is not monolithic in its position on the monument modifications.

□ **KXLH-Montana: (Jonathan Ambarian)— REQUEST--** Today, the Natural Resources Defense Council Action Fund has announced a TV advertising campaign in Montana, accusing Secretary Zinke and Republicans in Congress of proposing substantial cuts to funding for the National Park Service, and criticizing the proposal to increase entrance fees at parks like Glacier and Yellowstone. I wanted to ask if the secretary or the department wanted to make a statement in response to these ads.—**RESPONSE--** The people of Montana understand better than anyone that government should balance its budget. By contrast, the NRDC has launched several expensive and frivolous lawsuits against the Department wasting valuable taxpayer funds. The increase in week-long admission for a carload during peak season at some national parks is still more affordable than taking a family of four to see a 3D movie. Further, the vast majority of funds from the fees goes directly to fixing our parks.

□ **PBS: (Hannah Grabenstein)— REQUEST--** I'm writing a story for the PBS NewsHour about the next steps for the two national monuments now that the President has reduced their size. I'd like to know what happens to the land now, who maintains it or leases it, what the possible uses for it are, and a few other logistical questions like that. I'm also looking to see if BLM has any comment on the lawsuits filed by the Native American Rights Fund and The Wilderness Society or on the claims they're making regarding the legality of the proclamations.—**RESPONSE--** The land will be managed by the US Forest Service or BLM for multiple use management or under wilderness designation, depending on what it was prior to the monument. Multiple uses include grazing, motorized and nonmotorized recreation, traditional tribal uses, research, hunting, minerals, etc. there is however very very little if any mineral energy assets in Bears Ears and we do not believe there is industry interest in the area. The point of restoring multiple use designation is to restore public access and traditional uses to the land. Wilderness uses are extremely limited. For instance, groups of 12 are not permitted (think Tribal ceremony or a boyscout troop) and wheels are not allowed (like bikes or game carts). Motor vehicles and mineral energy development are not permitted in wilderness areas. Additionally, all federal land (not just monument) carries certain laws that protect against the removal of fossils and Native American artifacts, and development projects on federal land are subject to rigorous environmental assessments. Please contact DOJ for comment on litigation.

□ **WGME-Maine: (Matt Curren)— REQUEST--** We have read the Interior Secretary's report on recommendations for the National Monuments. In reference to the Katahdin Woods and Waters National Monument, one of the Secretary's recommendations says that the proclamation should be amended "to ensure compliance with the provisions and intent of the Act while also prioritizing promote a healthy forest through active timber management." Can you tell us specifically what "promote a healthy forest through active timber management" means?—**RESPONSE--** Active timber management means actively managing the forest to ensure there isn't a lot of thick underbrush or dead and dying timber which does things like impedes access for recreation and puts the health of the forest at risk.

## Top Stories

□ **The Spokesman-Review:** Zinke backs shrinking more national monuments, shifting



management of 10 others

- **Denver Post:** Interior head says Patagonia claim about public land “a lie”
- **ABC News:** Zinke, Patagonia trade harsh words over national monuments
- **TIME:** Patagonia CEO: This Is Why We're Suing President Trump

### **Top Issues and Accomplishment**

- Yesterday, Interior was named the 9th best large agency to work at in the federal government according to [bestplacestowork.org](https://www.bestplacestowork.org) (18 total). Interior was formerly ranked 11th, and DOI issued a press release on the news. The press release can be seen [HERE](#).
  - Yesterday, Secretary Zinke participated in a tele-town hall with SES employees regarding departmental reorganization.
  - Friday, Interior will publish a notice of delayed compliance with the Venting and Flaring rule.
  - Friday, Interior will announce that it will remove certain overly regulative and overreaching mitigation policies to continue to further American energy dominance.

### **AGENCY MEDIA (submitted 12/1)**

### **U.S. Department of the Interior**

#### *Secretarial-level Announcements/Events/Interviews*

- Today the Secretary attended the Cabinet Meeting as well as conducted a planning call with career leadership about the re-org plan.
- **December 8:** Secretary Zinke will have a meeting with Governor Martinez to discuss several DOI issues. No pro-active press planned.
- **December 7:** *Note:* We expect the FOIA office to post more documents about travel information from this year as well as documents from past Secretaries.
- **December 8 (tent): Department-level Release:** DOI will announce that it will remove certain overly regulative and overreaching mitigation policies to continue to further American energy dominance. Press release is forthcoming.
- **December 11:** Secretary Zinke is scheduled to have lunch with POTUS and VPOTUS as well as attend the White House Christmas Reception later in the day.
- **December 12: Department-level Release:** DOI will issue a release announcing the 2019-2024, Draft Proposed Program (for oil and gas exploration on the OCS). Comms materials will be sent shortly tonight. Comms call tomorrow.
- **December 14: Department-level Release:** DOI will announce the results from its Work Environment Survey. This will also include a variety of internal messaging to employees. Comms materials are forthcoming.

### **National Park Service**

- **December 6:** DOI Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary Scott Cameron, members of the Western Governors' Association and the states of Idaho and Nevada will visit Lake Mead National Recreation Area to discuss the parks aquatic invasive species program.
- **December 7: Local NPS Release:** NPS will announce the new superintendent of Knife River Indian Villages National Historic Site in Stanton, North Dakota.
- **December 9:** Up to 12 U.S. senators and representatives will tour Tule Springs Fossil Beds National Monument. The tour is part of a local excursion coordinated as part of the Congressional Western Caucus being held in Las Vegas.

- **December 11 (tent.): Local NPS Release:** The NPS Pacific West Region plans to publicly announce the business opportunity to operate overnight accommodations, food and beverage, retail, horse services, campground, and other visitor services at Lassen Volcanic National Park.
- **December 11:** Washington State University will publish an advertisement in Seattle and Portland area newspapers to solicit oral history narrators for a Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit (CESU) project titled "Documenting African American Migration, Segregation, and Civil Right History at Manhattan Project National Historical Park, Hanford." The advertisement is intended to encourage African Americans who worked at the Hanford site or resided in the Tri-Cities area of central Washington from 1943-1970 to volunteer to share stories that can help illuminate the project's themes.
- **December 12 (tent.): Local NPS Release:** Glen Canyon National Recreation Area will release the Air Tour Management Voluntary Agreement for a 30-day public comment period. The NPS, the Federal Aviation Administration, and seven commercial air tour operators intend to sign the agreement, once complete, to manage air tours over Glen Canyon National Recreation Area and Rainbow Bridge National Monument.
- **December 11-13:** Catoctin Mountain Park Visitor Center will be temporarily closed while the National Park Service replaces insulation in public areas of the building. The building will be thoroughly cleaned before it reopens at 9 a.m. Saturday, November 18. During the closure, public restrooms and a contact station will be available at park headquarters.

### U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

- **December 7: Local FWS Release:** FWS will publish a Notice of Regulatory Review (NORR) in the Federal Register requesting public comment on any potential effects a recent D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals ruling may have on the Service's June 30, 2017 final rule delisting the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem grizzly bear Distinct Population Segment.
- **December 11: Local FWS Release:** FWS will announce the solicitation of input from

the scientific community and the broader public on draft criteria set for the eventual recovery of the Northern Continental Divide Ecosystem (NCDE) grizzly bear. The NCDE region encompasses Glacier National Park and other parts of northwestern Montana.

## **Bureau of Land Management**

- **December 6: National BLM Release:** BLM-AK will hold an oil and gas lease sale for 900 tracts totaling 10.3 million acres in the NPR-A. There have been 12 previous NPR-A lease sales since 1999, but this one will be the first NPR-A lease to take place using livestream video. In addition, this is the first time that all available tracts will be offered for lease, which is a potential source of controversy. Bidding is expected to be moderate.
- **December 7: Local BLM Release:** BLM-CO will hold an oil and gas lease sale for 28 parcels totaling 27,284 acres in Garfield and Mesa counties. The sale is not expected to be controversial due to the lack of a significant number of protests received and lack of media coverage.
- **December 7: Local BLM Release:** BLM-NM will hold an oil and gas lease sale for 7 parcels totaling 2,104 acres in Eddy and Lea Counties. The sale is expected to be controversial and is likely to be protested by environmental groups concerned with the potential impacts of hydraulic fracturing on air and water quality. The bidding is expected to be robust.
  
- **December 7: National BLM Release:** BLM will publish a final rule delaying or suspending certain requirements of the Waste Prevention Rule (also known as the venting and Flaring Rule).
- **December 7:** BLM-CO Colorado River Valley Field Office will provide an update on its inspection and enforcement program at the quarterly Northwest Colorado Oil and Gas Forum in Rifle, CO. The BLM will then provide the update at the monthly Garfield County Energy Advisory Board, also in Rifle. Updates will focus on the status of current projects, permitting and leasing.
- **December 11:** BLM Office of Law Enforcement and Security Director William Woody will begin visits to members and staff of the Utah congressional delegation to discuss law enforcement issues in Utah. BLM Deputy Director for Policy Brian Steed and DOI Director of the Office of Congressional and Legislative Affairs John Tanner also plan to attend.
- **December 12: Local BLM Release:** BLM-NV will hold an online oil and gas lease sale for 208 parcels totaling 388,959.402 acres in White Pine, Lincoln and Nye Counties. The sale will likely be controversial.

- **December 12: Local BLM Release:** BLM-MT will hold an oil and gas lease sale for 204 parcels totaling 98,889 acres in Big Horn, Custer, Carter, Fallon, Garfield, Powder River, Richland, and Rosebud Counties. BLM-MT expects minimal controversy with this sale. Bidding is not expected to be robust.
- **December 12: Local BLM Release:** BLM-UT will hold an oil and gas lease sale for 75 parcels totaling 94,000 acres in Duchesne, Uintah and Emery counties. The sale is expected to be controversial due to the nomination of parcels near Dinosaur National Monument. However, two of the three parcels nominated by industry for consideration near the boundary of the Dinosaur National Monument have been deferred by the BLM Utah State Director for further consultation with the National Park Service. The remaining parcel contains both BLM and split estate land, and has a small portion within view of the Monument. The portion of land within view of the Monument is privately owned, however, the BLM has applied stipulations for light and noise pollution, and to minimize impacts to air quality and the scenic viewshed. Bidding is expected to be robust.
- **December 13:** BLM-CA Bakersfield Field Office will host an informational meeting and site visit for tribes regarding a Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act case at the San Joaquin River Gorge. Last year, human remains were discovered due to erosion on the slope of trail. The site has been stabilized to prevent further erosion. The meeting will discuss the tribes' wishes regarding this discovery and any future discoveries that may be made in the area.
- **December 13:** The BLM-CA El Centro Field Office will conduct a public scoping open-house meeting as a first step in the preparation of a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for United States Gypsum Company's (USG) proposed mine expansion/modernization project near the city of El Centro.
- **December 14: Local BLM Release:** BLM-Eastern States will hold an oil and gas lease sale for seven parcels totaling 1,185 acres in OH and LA. The sale will include five parcels totaling 350.06 acres in the Wayne National Forest, Monroe County, OH; and two parcels totaling 834.70 acres in the Kisatchie National Forest, Natchitoches and Winn Parishes, LA. The parcels being offered in the Wayne National Forest are expected to be controversial as several environmental groups are attempting to prohibit hydraulic fracturing in the area.
- **December 14:** BLM-CA's Bakersfield Field Office will host a public scoping meeting in Three Rivers to gather comments on a draft of a vegetation/forest health plan for the BLM's only giant sequoia grove on Case Mountain. The BLM manages approximately 444 acres on Case Mountain, which supports the Giant Sequoia Complex and the Case Mountain Extensive Recreation Management Area.
- **December 14:** BLM-AK Associate State Director Ted Murphy will provide an update to the Western Arctic Caribou Herd Working Group on development activities within the NPRA-A. The group brings a broad range of stakeholders together who are actively involved in the management of caribou and includes subsistence users, other hunters, reindeer herders, hunting guides, transporters and conservationists.
- **December 14: Local BLM Release:** BLM WY will host an online oil and gas lease sale. The sale will offer 45 parcels totaling 72,884.37 acres located in Laramie, Lincoln, Sweetwater, and Uinta counties. BLM received three protests for this oil and gas lease sale that will be dismissed because the issues raised in the protest are adequately analyzed in the supporting NEPA documents and Resource Management Plans.

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### **Bureau of Reclamation**

- **December 7:** On December 7 in Portland, Oregon, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Reclamation and Bonneville Power Administration will hold a public meeting on the Columbia River System Operations EIS to discuss the results of public scoping and provide a status update on progress made on the EIS and to further educate attendees on the NEPA process. A draft biological opinion is due in 2020, final environmental impact statement/record of decision in 2021. The two Reclamation facilities included in this process are Grand Coulee Dam and Hungry Horse Dam (both include hydropower facilities).
- **December 11:** NBC Nightly News is expected to air a segment relating to ongoing efforts to find an economically-viable solution to continuing operations of the Navajo Generating Station, near Page, Arizona. NBC News (Los Angeles) producer Jim Rainey has been tracking NGS developments for months, gathering multiple interviews and attending public comment sessions that were held in May in Phoenix, as well as the Navajo and Hopi reservations. Last week, Interior agencies (Bureau of Reclamation and Bureau of Indian Affairs) announced an extension lease to allow the Federal and non-Federal stakeholders' ongoing search for a post-2019 operator to continue. Coverage is expected to be neutral.

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### **Bureau of Ocean Energy Management**

- **December 13 (tent.):** NOA FSEIS for 2018 Gulf Region-wide Sales 250 and 251 NTS

### **Office of Natural Resources Revenue**

- **December TBD:** ONRR issued a civil penalty in the amount of \$19,736 to Mid-Con

Energy Operating, LLC, (Mid-Con) (formerly RDT Properties, Inc) on November 17, 2017. ONRR investigated Mid-Con's failure to submit production reports (form ONRR-4054) and found 68 violations on multiple Indian leases for the production months of September 2011 through January 2013.

- **December TBD:** ONRR anticipates issuing a civil penalty of about \$840 to Eight Round Inc., (Eight Round) the week of November 5, 2017. ONRR investigated Eight Round's failure to submit production reports (Forms ONRR-4054) and found 12 violations on one Indian agreement for production months of April, 2012 through September, 2013.

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### **CONGRESSIONAL UPDATE (updated 12/4)**

**UPCOMING SCIA HEARING:** The Senate Committee on Indian Affairs will host a legislative hearing on two Indian water rights settlement bills: S. 664 (Senator Hatch), the Navajo Utah Water Rights Settlement Act of 2017 and S. 1770 (Senator Flake), the Hualapai Tribe Water Rights Settlement Act of 2017. Alan Mikkelsen, the Chair of the Indian Water Rights Office Working Group, will be the witness on behalf of the Department.

**Timing:** Wednesday, December 6, 2017

**Contact:** Amanda Kaster, Advisor, Congressional Affairs

**UPCOMING HNR SUBCOMMITTEE HEARING REGARDING FISH RECOVERY PROGRAMS:** The House Natural Resources subcommittee on Water Power and Oceans will hold a legislative hearing on HR.4465 which has impacts on Bureau of Reclamation and Fish Wildlife Service. DOI will not be testifying but will provide a statement for the record.

**Timing:** Wednesday, December 6, 2017

**Contact:** Amanda Kaster, Advisor, Congressional Affairs

**EXPECTED HEARING:** The Senate Energy Committee is expected to hold a hearing on December 12 regarding permitting reform. Details regarding the specifics the committee plans to emphasize are still being put together; however, James Cason (Associate Dep. Sec.) is tentatively scheduled to testify.

**Timing:** Tuesday, December 12, 2017

**Contact:** Amanda Kaster, Advisor, Congressional Affairs

**DOI NOMINEES IN PROGRESS:** Susan Combs (A/S PMB) passed out of committee August 3, 2017 and still awaits a vote. Joe Balash (Assistant Secretary, Land & Minerals) and Ryan Nelson (Solicitor) appeared before the SENR committee on September 7, 2017. Both passed and now await full Senate approval. DOI OCL is working with OGE and the White House to get final approval for Asst. Sec. Indian Affairs nominee, Tara Sweeney before submitting her paperwork to the Senate. The White House nominated Steve Gardner for OSM. His Senate questionnaire is currently under review. Tim Petty's (Asst. Secretary, Water & Science Nominee) was nominated November 14, 2017 and his nomination hearing will be held on 12/5/17.

**Contact:** John Tanner, Director, Congressional Affairs

**NOTE: A vote for Balash is scheduled for today**

### **POLITICAL APPOINTEE UPDATE**

DOI politicals on board = 65

4 PAS confirmed as of 11/16

6 nominated awaiting confirmation:

- Pending Senate floor vote: Susan Combs, Assistant Secretary Policy Management and Budget.
- Pending Senate floor vote: Joe Balash, Assistant Secretary, Land and Minerals
  - o **NOTE: A vote for Balash is scheduled for today**
- Pending Senate floor vote: Ryan Douglas Nelson, Solicitor
- Pending Hearing: Tara Sweeney, Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs
- Pending Hearing: Steve Gardner, Director, Office of Surface Mining and Reclamation
- Pending Hearing: Tim Petty, Assistant Secretary for Water and Science

Overall:

- Schedule C: 36 of 68 onboard; 2 starting; 6 in process
- NC-SES: 26 of 44 onboard; 3 starting; 1 in process
- PAS: 4 Confirmed; 6 Announced; 14 of 17 Submitted to PPO

### **SECRETARY SPEAKING INVITATIONS**

Accepted:

12/16 - National Wreaths Across America Day (Arlington National Cemetery)

2/9 – Western Hunting & Conservation Expo (Salt Lake City, Utah)

3/6-7 – CERA Week (Houston, Texas)

Open (date TBC)- Americans for Tax Reform (DC)

Open (date TBC)- Detroit Economic Club

Outstanding Invitations in Process:

- 1/4 – Dallas Safari Club Annual Meeting (Dallas, TX)
- 1/26-28 – Houston Safari Club Annual Meeting (Houston, TX)
- 1/29 – Society of Range Management Annual Meeting (Reno, Nevada)
- 1/31-2/3 Safari Club International Annual Meeting (Las Vegas, NV)
- 2/8- Texas Public Policy Foundation Policy Orientation (Austin, TX)
- 2/12 – The Corps Network National Conference (Washington, DC)

Declining

- 12/5-7 America Outdoors Association's 29th Annual Marketing and Management Conference for Outfitters and Adventure Resorts (Reno, NV)
- 12/5 – NY Stock Exchange Ringing of the Bell & remarks at Wells Fargo Financial Symposium Event (NYC)
- 12/6 American Exploration and Mining Association Annual Meeting (Reno, NV)
- 12/8 - Valley Industry and Commerce Association Annual Meeting (Los Angeles, CA)
- 12/11 – Veterans Day Commemoration (Prussia, PA)
- 12/14 – Leadership Missoula (Missoula, Montana)
- 12/8 – DOI Toastmasters event (Washington, DC)
- 12/9 – Western Caucus Foundation Winter Policy Meeting (Las Vegas, NV)
- 1/11/18 – EEI CEO and Board Conference (Phoenix, AZ)
- 2/9-10 Associated General Contractors Western Chapter Annual Meeting (La Jolla, CA)
- 2/23/18 – West Slope Colorado Oil and Gas Association Annual Meeting (Grand Junction, CO)

**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**

The Thomas Fire (being managed by CAL Fire) in southern California continues to actively burn with extreme rates of spread due to erratic wind activity. The fire has burned approximately 90,000 (+35,000) acres and is 5-percent (+5) contained. The fire is being managed by a Type-1 Incident Management Team with 2,497 (+721) personnel assigned, none of which are DOI personnel. The fire is burning on some BLM land parcels and is approaching the Lake Casitas Dam (USBR), which is approximately 1.5 miles west-northwest of the current fire perimeter. There are 12,000 structures threatened (no change) by this fire and 150 (no change) structures have been destroyed. The fire is also threatening power transmission lines, oil resources, high-pressure gas lines, communications infrastructure, and local crops. The low relative humidity values and high winds in the area remain a challenge for response personnel, and Extremely Critical Fire Weather is forecast for the region again today. Full containment of this fire is expected December 24.

Although the Pacific Regional Office located in Camarillo, California, is not currently threatened by fire activity and remains open, some DOI personnel who live in the area have been impacted due to ongoing evacuations, power outages, and school closures. All DOI



personnel are accounted for and efforts to maintain accountability are ongoing.

To the east of the Thomas Fire and north-northwest of Los Angeles, the Rye Fire (CAL Fire) and Creek Fire (CAL Fire) are also actively burning. Environmental conditions are conducive for additional perimeter growth over the next 24 to 48 hours for both fires. They are being managed by Type-1 IMTs and have resulted in significant evacuations in the area. The Creek Fire has burned 12,605 acres, is 5-percent contained, and has 1,559 personnel assigned, 19 of which are DOI personnel. Full containment is expected December 23. The Rye Fire has burned 7,000 acres, is 10-percent contained, and has 901 personnel assigned, none of which are DOI personnel. Full containment is expected December 15. There are no DOI assets currently impacted by these fires; however, there are some BLM land parcels in the vicinity.

## **OUTSIDE MEDIA OF INTEREST** (new)

### **BLM finalizes delay of methane waste rule.**

The Bureau of Land Management will finalize a long-term delay of its methane waste rule in a notice to be published in Friday's Federal Register. The rule's key provisions, including leak detection and repair requirements, will not be enforced until Jan. 17, 2019, according to the notice. That will give BLM enough time to repeal the rule. "The BLM has concerns regarding the statutory authority, cost, complexity, feasibility, and other implications of the 2016 final rule, and therefore intends to avoid imposing likely considerable and immediate compliance costs on operators for requirements that may be rescinded or significantly revised in the near future," the agency wrote in the notice.

The Interior Department issued a hasty delay last year, but it was struck down by a federal judge who said the agency failed to follow administrative procedure, in particular collecting public comment on a delay. BLM subsequently went through notice-and-comment rulemaking to produce this new delay. BLM said on Monday that it will appeal that judge's ruling, despite the newly finalized delay. If that appeal succeeds, it would make it easier for Interior to stop rules in the future.

**WHAT'S NEXT:** It is unclear how long it will take BLM to complete its review and potential repeal of the methane waste rule, also known as the venting and flaring rule.

### **Lawsuits Address Whether Presidents Can Modify Monuments.**

The AP (12/6, McCombs, Price) reports that "a flurry of lawsuits" President Trump's move to shrink the Bears Ears and Grand Staircase-Escalante national monuments "could finally bring an answer to the much-debated question of whether presidents have the legal authority to undo or change monuments created by past presidents." Already, four lawsuits have been filed, "and more are expected – especially if Trump follows Zinke's recommendations to shrink two other monuments – Gold Butte in Nevada and Cascade Siskiyou in Oregon." But "legal experts disagree on whether the 1906 Antiquities Act – allowing presidents to create a monument – also lets them reduce one."

Additional coverage was provided by the Washington Post (12/6, Grandoni).

***Patagonia Sues To Prevent Trump Administration From Shrinking Bears Ears Monument.*** The Washington Examiner (12/6, Correll) reports that "outdoor recreation company Patagonia sued Wednesday to block President Trump from shrinking Bears Ears

National Monument in Utah.” Patagonia called Trump’s decision to reduce the size of the Bears Ears monument an “extreme overreach in authority.” The [Huffington Post](#) (12/6, Madani) reports that Patagonia President and CEO Rose Marcario said in a statement, “The Administration’s unlawful actions betray our shared responsibility to protect iconic places for future generations and represent the largest elimination of protected land in American history. We’ve fought to protect these places since we were founded and now we’ll continue that fight in the courts.”

***Patagonia, Interior Department Trade Twitter Barbs Over ‘Special Interests’.*** [CNN](#) (12/6, Green) reports the Interior Department and outdoor retailer Patagonia “continued their public spat over US national monuments Tuesday on Twitter, trading barbs over each others’ ties to ‘special interests.’” In a tweet, Patagonia referred to “a back-and-forth over” Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke’s “travel on behalf of the agency: ‘It’s odd that @SecretaryZinke has no problem with special interests when they’re paying for his private jets. We have been fighting for these lands for decades, so that hunters, fisherman, hikers and everyone else can use them and help us protect them.’” Following Patagonia’s tweet, “the official Interior spokesperson account piped in, calling aspects of Patagonia’s statement ‘fake news.’” Another tweet a few minutes later said, “Not a jet. Not paid by spec interest. Same prop that prev secs used. selected by career officials.”

***Patagonia CEO On Trump Shrinking Monuments: ‘This Is Not About Politics’.*** In it’s “Blog Briefing Room” blog, [The Hill](#) (12/6, Delk) reports that Patagonia CEO Rose Marcario “denied the company having any political motivations in its website’s statement condemning President Trump’s ‘illegal’ move to shrink two national monuments in Utah.” In an op-ed for [TIME](#) (12/6, Marcario), Marcario wrote, “This is not about politics; it’s about protecting the places we love and keeping the great promise of this country for our children and grandchildren. We won’t let President Trump tear down our heritage and sell it to the highest bidder.” Marcario also “defended the company’s claim that Trump’s move was illegal, citing the Antiquities Act of 1906 that allows presidents to designate national monuments but noted it does ‘not give the President the power to undo a prior president’s monument designations.’”

***Additional Coverage.*** Also reporting are [AP](#) (12/6, McCOMBS), [NBC News](#) (12/6, Rainey), [PBS NewsHour](#) (12/6, Grabenstein), [The New Yorker](#) (12/6, Nijhuis), and the [Santa Fe \(NM\) Reporter](#) (12/6, Paskus).

### **Alaskan Oil Lease Sale Brings Few Bids Despite Vast Territory Offered.**

[Reuters](#) (12/6, Rosen) reports the Trump Administration’s oil and gas lease sale in the National Petroleum Reserve in Alaska only received seven bids. The bids covered about 80,000 acres, less than 1 percent of the 10.3 million acres offered in the sale. ConocoPhillips Alaska submitted all seven bids, worth \$1.16 million, in partnership with Anadarko. Ted Murphy, associate director of the BLM’s Alaska office, said, “Lease sale interest is unpredictable. ... We don’t know what industry, ultimately, will be interested in getting from year to year.” The [AP](#) (12/6, Joling) reports Kristen Miller, conservation director of the Alaska Wilderness League, said the sale shows that any drilling in the Arctic Refuge will not bring in the expected revenue. The bids on Wednesday brought in \$14.99 an acre, leading Miller to say, “At that price, leasing the entirety of the Arctic Refuge coastal plain’s 1.5 million acres would

raise slightly more than \$11 million in revenue for the federal government, a far cry from the billion dollar lie that Trump and Republicans are feeding the American public.”

Additional coverage was provided by UPI (12/6, Graeber) and the Alaska Public Radio Network (12/6, Harball).

### **Conservation Group Takes After Zinke Over Park Fees; Praises Tester.**

KRTV-TV Great Falls, MT (12/6, Dennison) reports that the political arm of the Natural Resources Defense Fund, has launched a “five-figure” ad campaign in Montana opposing the Trump Administration proposal to hike “entrance fees to national parks – and praising Democratic U.S. Sen. Jon Tester for his stand on the issue.” Interior spokeswoman Heather Swift said “Wednesday that the increase is ‘still more affordable than taking a family of four to see a 3-D movie,’ and that the majority of the increased funds will pay for park maintenance.” Swift “also noted that NRDC has filed several ‘expensive and frivolous lawsuits’ against the Interior Department, wasting ‘valuable taxpayer funds.’” The campaign by NRDC Action Fund is “the latest of several efforts by conservation groups either taking” after Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke, “or boosting Tester, who is up for re-election in 2018.”

Additional coverage was provided by KTVQ-TV Billings, MT (12/6, Dennison) and KPAX-TV Missoula, MT (12/6, Dennison).

### **Sea Level Rise Could Drown More Than 2,500 Louisiana Historic Sites.**

The New Orleans Times-Picayune (12/6, Sneath) reports that “more than 19,600 historically significant sites along the Atlantic and Gulf coasts could be lost to sea level rise, according to a new peer-reviewed study published in PLUS ONE.” The study examined “records of archaeological sites and the National Register of Historic Places from nine states and overlays that information with projected sea level rise over the next century.” The study said, “Tens of thousands of historic and prehistoric archaeological sites, and thousands of properties currently designated eligible for inclusion on the (National Register of Historic Places), which include archaeological sites, standing structures, and other cultural property types, will be submerged and hence lost or damaged, as well as underwater resources that will be effected by changes in ocean acidification, currents, and shipping patterns.”

### **Vietnam Wall Brings Healing.**

The Nevada Appeal (12/6, Ranson) reports that Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke was among the speakers on Veterans Day at the Vietnam Wall Zinke “said the wall is a tribute to remembering Vietnam veterans.” He said, “We should never run away from the history of our country. We should learn. When I served in the seal teams for 23 years, 1985, most of my instructors were SEALs that had served in Vietnam. They cut their teeth in the jungles and the rivers. I learned a lot from those fine warriors. I have learned a lot from you, those that have fought. I’ve learned commitment, dedication, sacrifice.”

### **Heller Bill Protects Special Federal Lands Without Using Taxpayer Funds.**

The Ripon Advance (12/6) reports that Sen. Dean Heller on Monday “introduced bipartisan

legislation to enable protecting and preserving iconic Western federal lands with special conservation importance without using taxpayer funds.” The bill “reauthorizes the Federal Land Transaction Facilitation Act (FLTFA), which expired in 2011.” Heller said, “This bipartisan program provides a fiscally responsible way to protect and manage important public lands in Nevada and throughout the West. Not only will it spur economic growth and development, it will also keep conservation at the forefront of the region’s needs.”

### **Area Of Protected Land Larger Than California At Risk From Drilling.**

The MintPress News (12/6, Carter) reports that “an area of protected land larger than California could be at risk from fossil fuel development, as the Trump administration looks to ramp up drilling on federal lands – according to a new investigation by Unearthed.” The analysis “mapped the overlap between every protected park in the US and potentially major reserves of oil, gas and coal.” The report “shows how much protected land – and which iconic landscapes – could be affected by the Trump administration’s goal of opening up more land for energy development than ever before.”

### **US To Review End Of Protections For Yellowstone Grizzlies.**

The AP (12/6, Brown) reports that federal officials “said Wednesday they’ll review the recent lifting of protections for Yellowstone-area grizzly bears in light of a court ruling that retained protections for gray wolves in the Great Lakes.” According to the article, “in its response to the appeals court ruling, the Fish and Wildlife Service said it’s now seeking public comment on the potential implications for Yellowstone bears.” The FWS “plans to release its conclusions by March 31.”

Additional coverage was provided by Reuters (12/6), MLive (MI) (12/6, Raven), the WyoFile (12/6, Thuermer), and KTVH-TV Helena, MT (12/6, Jochim).

### **House Panel Considers Extending Endangered Fish Recovery Programs.**

Courthouse News (12/6, Buchman) reports that “the House Natural Resources Committee considered legislation Wednesday that will extend endangered fish recovery programs in the Upper Colorado and San Juan rivers and direct the Interior Department to conduct an in-depth review of the success of the program to date.” Rep. John Curtis’ bill, the Endangered Fish Recovery Programs Extension Act of 2017, “would do two things: first, it would allow for the continued annual collection of fees from water and power users to continue funding the collaborative restoration efforts involving state and federal agencies, tribes and other stakeholders.” Second, the legislation “directs the Interior Department to assess how well the programs are working and how they can be improved.”

### **National Park Service Awards \$18,000 Grant To Aid Restoration Of Topeka’s Historic Constitution Hall.**

The Topeka (KS) Capital-Journal (12/6, Hrenchir) reports the National Park Service recently awarded \$18,000 “to help restore the front doors and windows of Topeka’s Constitution Hall, which was the site of events in the 1850s that helped shape this nation’s history.” Diane Miller, national program manager for the National Underground Railroad Network to

Freedom, noted that “the effort to restore the front doors and front windows at Constitution Hall, 427-429 S. Kansas Ave., was among only 16 projects chosen to receive funding from 41 applications nationwide.” In a letter to Grant Glenn, president of the not-for-profit Friends of the Free State Capitol, Inc., Miller wrote, “We found your project to be very exciting and feel that it will advance the goals of preserving the history of the Underground Railroad and informing the public. We commend your creativity in developing the proposal and your dedication to this important part of our heritage.”

### **Town Clock Church Gets Network To Freedom Grant.**

The Jefferson (IN) News & Tribune (12/6) reports that the National Park Service awarded a Network to Freedom grant of \$15,940 to the Friends of the Town Clock Church. The application sought funds for “tuck-pointing the historic Town Clock Church at Second Baptist Church in New Albany.” The article notes that “the federal grant requires a dollar for dollar match” and “the Friends of the Town Clock Church will need to raise \$15,940 to match the grant.”

### **In Oklahoma, The National Park Service Estimates There Are \$19.9 Million In Deferred Maintenance.**

The Oklahoma Gazette (12/6, Eastes) reports that “according to National Park Service, Chickasaw National Recreation Area, Washita Battlefield National Historic Site and Oklahoma City National Memorial & Museum welcomed 1.6 million visitors, who spent an estimated \$27 million in OKC and across the state.” However, the article notes that Chickasaw National Recreation Area “requires \$19.7 million in repairs” and Washita Battlefield National Historic Site “lists \$196,027 in needed repairs.”

### **FEDERAL REGISTER LISTINGS:**

REG0007679 FWS Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Permit Applications (Ohio Department of Natural Resources): This is a batched notice announcing the receipt of applications received by FWS for Endangered Species Act permits. Notice 12/06/2017

REG0007530 OSM Oklahoma Regulatory Program (OK-037-FOR): The Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSMRE) is approving an amendment to the Oklahoma regulatory program under the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 (SMCRA). Oklahoma submitted the proposed amendment on its own initiative in 2015. Final Rule 12/06/2017

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Natalie Davis  
Special Assistant to the Secretary  
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**To:** Magallanes, Downey[downey\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov]; David Bernhardt[dwbernhardt@ios.doi.gov]; Daniel Jorjani[daniel\_jorjani@ios.doi.gov]; Scott Hommel[scott\_hommel@ios.doi.gov]; Lori Mashburn[lori\_mashburn@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]; Newell, Russell[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov]; Alex Hinson[alex\_hinson@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Rigas, Laura  
**Sent:** 2017-10-05T16:45:35-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** E&E: Enviros file suit seeking info for Zinke's wife  
**Received:** 2017-10-05T16:45:42-04:00

## INTERIOR

### Enviros file suit seeking info for Zinke's wife

**Michael Doyle**, E&E News reporter  
*Published: Thursday, October 5, 2017*

A green group filed a lawsuit seeking information about the travels of Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke's wife, Lolita Zinke. C-SPAN

Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke's wife has now been drawn deeper into the Trump administration's travel swirl, with an environmental group suing today in an effort to uncover more details about her activities.

The lawsuit filed in U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia follows up on a Freedom of Information Act request submitted earlier this year by the Montana-based Western Values Project.

"There should be transparency and accountability for everyone who influences Interior's decisions," Chris Saeger, the environmental group's executive director, said in a statement. "If Lola Zinke is playing a role at Interior, taxpayers deserve to know if she is playing by the same rules as everyone else who works there."

The Interior secretary, who has been the focus until now, has said his travel has been both appropriate and approved.

"I believe taxpayers absolutely have the right to know official travel costs: It's common sense, and at the department we make those documents and my travel schedule available to everyone," Zinke said Friday. "Using tax dollars wisely and ethically is a great responsibility and is at the good heart of good government."

A group called American Oversight filed the [seven-page lawsuit](#) on behalf of the Western Values Project, which is a frequent critic of Zinke. A number of American Oversight staffers formerly worked for Democratic staffers or campaigns.

In early June, the environmentalists filed an Interior Department FOIA request, seeking documents concerning Lolita Zinke's participation in internal meetings, presence on official trips and emails sent to her in relation to government business, among other matters.

So far, the lawsuit states, the department "has failed" to produce any documents or make any determination concerning the request.

An Interior spokesperson could not be reached late this afternoon for comment.

The FOIA request was one of many bombarding officials. Last year, the Interior Department reported receiving 6,428 FOIA requests. The average response time for a request deemed to be "complex" was 42 days, although responses varied widely.

The lawsuit filed today in support of the underlying FOIA request escalates a campaign occurring on other fronts, as well ([Greenwire](#), Oct. 4).

Two top Democrats on the House Natural Resources Committee on Monday urged Interior's Office of Inspector General to include an examination of Lolita Zinke's travel as part of an ongoing inquiry into the Cabinet secretary's travel.

In early September, Zinke's wife was named campaign chairwoman for Republican businessman and Air Force veteran Troy Downing, who is challenging Sen. Jon Tester (D-Mont.) ([E&E Daily](#), Sept. 7).

"Because the secretary's spouse is leading a Senate campaign in Montana, tax-payer funded travel for Mrs. Zinke, especially to or from Montana, deserves heightened scrutiny," Reps. Raúl Grijalva of Arizona and Donald McEachin of Virginia wrote.

Earlier this week, Lolita Zinke praised Downing on Twitter, writing that "he fought for our country and now for us," and she retweeted a commentator who blasted the "Leftist Media" for the coverage of former Health and Human Services Secretary Tom Price, who resigned following reports of his travel.

**To:** Aurelia Skipwith[aurelia\_skipwith@ios.doi.gov]; Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov];  
 Tameka Lewis-Robinson[tameka\_lewis-robinson@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** karmen\_young@ios.doi.gov  
**Sent:** 2017-07-28T09:29:08-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Email Search Request - FOIA Request: OS-2017-00929  
**Received:** 2017-07-28T09:29:46-04:00  
[17-00929qa.pdf](#)  
[17-00929 FOIA Control Form \(updated\) BLANK.pdf](#)

All,

OS FOIA has received a Freedom of Information Act request for which we believe your Office may have responsive materials. Please use the below chart, attached copy of the FOIA request, and attached FOIA Control Form to inform us of your search efforts.

- If available, please provide responsive documents to OS FOIA electronically (CD, FOIA DMU Processing Application, email, or thumb drive). Please note that Bison Connect can pull emails electronically with the DMU Processing App's and OS staff can assist with this tool. Please contact OS FOIA if electronic documents are not available.
- Please track the time required to search for these documents on the attached control form.
- If you have any questions regarding the specific guidance on copying, reviewing, and submitting documents to the OS FOIA office, please call 202-513-0765.

Please reply/send all items to <a href="mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov">osfoia@ios.doi.gov</a> - Except "FOIA/DMU Processing Tool" searches (Please include <a href="mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov">osfoia@ios.doi.gov</a> on all communications/discussions regarding this FOIA request.)	
<b>Action Office:</b> Office of the Secretary	<b>Responsible Program Office:</b> SIO, ASFWP
<b>Current Date:</b> 07/28/17	<b>Due Date:</b> 08/11/17
<b>FOIA Request Control Number:</b> OS-2017-00929	<b>OS FOIA Contact (MIB 7328):</b> Cindy Sweeney
<b>Requester's Name:</b> Chris Saeger	<b>Amount Requester Is Willing To Pay:</b> Fee Waiver Requested

Thank you,  
Karmen



--

Department of the Interior  
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1849 C Street, NW, MS-7328  
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[os\\_foia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:os_foia@ios.doi.gov)  
(202) 513-0765 - phone  
(202) 219-2374 - fax

**To:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]; Laura Rigas[laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov]; Maureen Foster[maureen\_foster@ios.doi.gov]; Virginia Johnson[virginia\_johnson@ios.doi.gov]; Timothy Williams[timothy\_williams@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** kashieka\_minor@ios.doi.gov  
**Sent:** 2017-07-25T10:29:57-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Email Search Request - OS-2017-00905  
**Received:** 2017-07-25T10:30:38-04:00  
[17-00905qa.pdf](#)  
[FOIA Control Form \(4.8.16\) \(7\).pdf](#)

Hi everyone,

OS FOIA has received a Freedom of Information Act request for which we believe your Office may have responsive materials. Please use the below chart, attached copy of the request, and attached control form to inform your search.

- If available, please provide responsive documents to OS FOIA electronically (CD, FOIA DMU Processing Application, email, or thumb drive). Please note that Bison Connect can pull emails electronically with the DMU Processing App's and OS staff can assist with this tool. Please contact OS FOIA if electronic documents are not available.**
  
- Please track the time required to search for these documents on the attached control form.**
- **If you have any questions regarding the specific guidance on copying, reviewing, and submitting documents to the OS FOIA office, please call 202-513-0765.**

<b>Action Office:</b>  Office of the Secretary	<b>Responsible Program Office:</b>  SIO
<b>Current Date:</b>  7/25/17	<b>Due Date:</b>  8/8/17
<b>FOIA Request Control Number:</b>  OS-2017-00905	<b>OS FOIA Contact (MIB 7328):</b>  Cindy Sweeney
<b>Requester's Name:</b>  Beth France	<b>Amount Requester is Willing to Pay:</b>  Requested fee waiver

Thanks,  
Kashieka

--

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**To:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** kashieka\_minor@ios.doi.gov  
**Sent:** 2017-07-27T09:49:44-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Email Search Request - OS-2017-00932  
**Received:** 2017-07-27T09:50:22-04:00  
[FOIA Control Form \(4.8.16\) \(9\).pdf](#)  
[17-00932qa.pdf](#)

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- Please track the time required to search for these documents on the attached control form.
- If you have any questions regarding the specific guidance on copying, reviewing, and submitting documents to the OS FOIA office, please call 202-513-0765.

Please reply/send all items to <a href="mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov">osfoia@ios.doi.gov</a> - Except "FOIA/DMU Processing Tool" searches (Please include <a href="mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov">osfoia@ios.doi.gov</a> on all communications/discussions regarding this FOIA request.)	
<b>Action Office:</b> <b>Office of the Secretary</b>	<b>Responsible Program Office:</b> <b>OS/ASFWP</b>
<b>Current Date:</b> <b>07/27/17</b>	<b>Due Date:</b> <b>8/10/17</b>
<b>FOIA Request Control Number:</b> <b>OS-2017-00932</b>	<b>OS FOIA Contact (MIB 7328):</b> <b>Cindy Sweeney</b>
<b>Requester's Name:</b> <b>Alexander Romy</b>	<b>Amount Requester Is Willing To Pay:</b> <b>Fee Waiver Requested</b>

Thank you,  
Kashieka

--

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**To:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** kashieka\_minor@ios.doi.gov  
**Sent:** 2017-08-02T08:37:28-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Email Search Request OS-2017-00976  
**Received:** 2017-08-02T08:38:06-04:00  
[FOIA Control Form \(updated\) BLANK \(1\).pdf](#)  
[17-00976qa.pdf](#)

This request has been placed in the “complex” processing track.

OS FOIA has received a Freedom of Information Act request for which we believe your Office may have responsive materials. Please use the below chart, attached copy of the FOIA request, and attached FOIA Control Form to inform us of your search efforts.

- If available, please provide responsive documents to OS FOIA electronically (CD, FOIA DMU Processing Application, email, or thumb drive). Please note that Bison Connect can pull emails electronically with the DMU Processing App’s and OS staff can assist with this tool. Please contact OS FOIA if electronic documents are not available.
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- If you have any questions regarding the specific guidance on copying, reviewing, and submitting documents to the OS FOIA office, please call 202-513-0765.

Please reply/send all items to <a href="mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov">osfoia@ios.doi.gov</a> - <b>Except “FOIA/DMU Processing Tool” searches</b> (Please include <a href="mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov">osfoia@ios.doi.gov</a> on all communications/discussions regarding this FOIA request.)	
<b>Action Office:</b> Office of the Secretary	<b>Responsible Program Office:</b> SIO
<b>Current Date:</b> 08/02/17	<b>Due Date:</b> 08/16/17
<b>FOIA Request Control Number:</b> OS-2017-00976	<b>OS FOIA Contact (MIB 7328):</b> Cindy Sweeney
<b>Requester’s Name:</b> Thomas Edson	<b>Amount Requester Is Willing To Pay:</b> Fee Waiver Requested

Thank you,  
Kashieka

--  
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**To:** Michael Coleman[mcoleman@abqjournal.com]  
**From:** Swift, Heather  
**Sent:** 2017-12-18T14:39:24-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** foia  
**Received:** 2017-12-18T14:40:11-05:00

<https://www.doi.gov/foia/os/os-foia-library-travel-records>

-

Heather Swift  
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**To:** heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov  
**Sent:** 2017-08-14T19:57:00-04:00  
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**Line:** 25

at docslst (ProcessingLibrary):25 (zipFolder) at email (ProcessingLibrary):116

**Stack:** (sendTo) at Main (ProcessingLibrary):110 (init) at Main (FOIA DMU Processing):3  
(submit)

Pass0

**To:** heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
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**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** FOIA DMU Processing - label too large to send via email  
**Received:** 2017-12-22T15:50:07-05:00

**You have chosen a label that is too large to send as an email attachment.**

The current limit on email attachment size is 25MB. The total size of all your messages and attachments that were processed is larger than can be sent.

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2. Find the folder in the list
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\*Recipients must belong to the Department of the Interior

If you need more assistance, please contact your local help desk.



\*Created with the FOIA DMU Processing Application\*

**To:** heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Heather Swift (via Google Drive)  
**Sent:** 2017-08-15T17:29:57-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** FOIA Glacier WVP - Invitation to collaborate  
**Received:** 2017-08-15T17:30:05-04:00

heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov has invited you to **contribute to** the following shared folder:

## FOIA Glacier WVP

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Google Drive: Have all your files within reach from any device.

Google Inc. 1600 Amphitheatre Parkway, Mountain View, CA 94043, USA

**To:** heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Heather Swift (via Google Drive)  
**Sent:** 2017-08-14T19:08:07-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** FOIA Glacier Zuckerberg - Invitation to collaborate  
**Received:** 2017-08-14T19:08:11-04:00

heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov has invited you to **contribute to** the following shared folder:

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**To:** heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Leah Fairman (via Google Drive)  
**Sent:** 2017-08-15T16:41:11-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** FOIA Glacier Zuckerberg - Request for access  
**Received:** 2017-08-15T16:41:19-04:00

Leah Fairman is **requesting access** to the following folder:

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**To:** heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Leah Fairman (via Google Drive)  
**Sent:** 2017-08-15T08:34:01-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** FOIA Glacier Zuckerberg - Request for access  
**Received:** 2017-08-15T08:34:08-04:00

Leah Fairman is **requesting access** to the following folder:

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Google Inc. 1600 Amphitheatre Parkway, Mountain View, CA 94043, USA

**To:** heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Heather Swift (via Google Drive)  
**Sent:** 2017-08-14T19:57:22-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** FOIA June 12 BENM Call - Invitation to collaborate  
**Received:** 2017-08-14T19:57:30-04:00

heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov has invited you to **contribute to** the following shared folder:

## FOIA June 12 BENM Call

[Open](#)

Google Drive: Have all your files within reach from any device.

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**To:** heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Cynthia Sweeney (via Google Drive)  
**Sent:** 2017-08-23T08:47:13-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** FOIA June 12 BENM Call - Request for access  
**Received:** 2017-08-23T08:47:54-04:00

Cynthia Sweeney is **requesting access** to the following folder:

## FOIA June 12 BENM Call

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Google Inc. 1600 Amphitheatre Parkway, Mountain View, CA 94043, USA



**To:** heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Leah Fairman (via Google Drive)  
**Sent:** 2017-08-15T15:42:42-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** FOIA June 12 BENM Call - Request for access  
**Received:** 2017-08-15T15:42:49-04:00

Leah Fairman is **requesting access** to the following folder:

## FOIA June 12 BENM Call

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Google Drive: Have all your files within reach from any device.

Google Inc. 1600 Amphitheatre Parkway, Mountain View, CA 94043, USA

**To:** heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Leah Fairman (via Google Drive)  
**Sent:** 2017-08-15T08:43:24-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** FOIA June 12 BENM Call - Request for access  
**Received:** 2017-08-15T08:43:31-04:00

Leah Fairman is **requesting access** to the following folder:

## FOIA June 12 BENM Call

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Google Drive: Have all your files within reach from any device.

Google Inc. 1600 Amphitheatre Parkway, Mountain View, CA 94043, USA

**To:** heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Leah Fairman (via Google Drive)  
**Sent:** 2017-08-15T08:42:19-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** FOIA June 12 BENM Call - Request for access  
**Received:** 2017-08-15T08:42:21-04:00

Leah Fairman is **requesting access** to the following folder:

## FOIA June 12 BENM Call

[Open sharing settings](#)

Google Drive: Have all your files within reach from any device.

Google Inc. 1600 Amphitheatre Parkway, Mountain View, CA 94043, USA

**To:** Robert Howarth[robert\_howarth@ios.doi.gov]; Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Julka, Clarice  
**Sent:** 2017-12-15T07:36:37-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** FOIA Numbers  
**Received:** 2017-12-15T07:37:04-05:00

I just wanted to make sure you had the correct incoming number of FOIA requests for Fiscal year 2017 as compared to Fiscal year 2016 for both the entire Department and for OS FOIA. In an article today, the Washington Post today cited incorrect numbers. Please call me with any questions.

Received FY17	Received FY16
DOI: 8014	6438
OS: 1226	509

Thanks,

Clarice

Clarice Julka  
Department of the Interior  
Office of the Secretary, FOIA Office  
1849 C Street, NW, MS-7328  
Washington, D.C. 20240  
[Clarice\\_Julka@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Clarice_Julka@ios.doi.gov)  
(202) 513-0765 - phone  
(202) 208-6045 - direct line  
(202) 219-2374 - fax

**To:** Fears, Darryl[darryl.fears@washpost.com]; Eilperin, Juliet[Juliet.eilperin@washpost.com]  
**From:** Swift, Heather  
**Sent:** 2017-12-15T08:46:44-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** FOIA numbers correction  
**Received:** 2017-12-15T08:47:31-05:00

WP team - very sorry but I was just given a clarification to the FOIA numbers. The gent who gave me the numbers before gave me the numbers for just the office of the secretary. Below are the numbers for the entire department and broken out is the office of the secretary. My apologies if this causes you a headache.

Received FY17	Received FY16
DOI: 8014	6438
OS: 1226	509

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

**To:** Howarth, Robert[robert\_howarth@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Swift, Heather  
**Sent:** 2017-11-29T13:44:23-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** FOIA Package?  
**Received:** 2017-11-29T13:45:09-05:00

Rob, Do you happen to have the FOIA package that was sent to this reporter?

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Dan Vergano <[dan.vergano@buzzfeed.com](mailto:dan.vergano@buzzfeed.com)>  
**Date:** Wed, Nov 29, 2017 at 1:40 PM  
**Subject:** BuzzFeed News: Status of August review of \$100K+ grants  
**To:** [Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov)

Ms. Swift

OSMRE communications indicated you were the contact for this query. I'm a science reporter at BuzzFeed News. I'm writing to enquire about the Aug. 18 request by Glenda Owens at OSMRE, asking the NAS to halt a study, S16AC20034, citing an agency review of grants of more than \$100,000 in funding.

Can DOI update us on the status of this review? Has it been started, completed, or is underway in any fashion? Is there anyone at the agency who can explain how the review is structured? We wonder a) how many review sessions have been held b) who is doing the reviewing and c) how many studies are included in this review.

We recently received a FOIA response on this topic from your agency, and are planning a story on the review request. It would be great to get any update on its status and the questions I mentioned (or whatever else you think noteworthy on the topic) before the end of the work week.

Thanks for any help,

Dan Vergano  
BuzzFeed News  
[202 629 4563](tel:2026294563)

**Dan Vergano** | Science Desk (DC) | [202 629 4563](tel:2026294563)

**BuzzFeed News**

[1630 Connecticut Ave. 7th Floor, Washington DC 20009](http://www.buzzfeed.com)

Public PGP Key -- <http://tinyurl.com/glfk7xo>

Send secure tips -- [contact.buzzfeed.com](http://contact.buzzfeed.com)

**To:** laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov[laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov];  
heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** rebecca\_matulka@ios.doi.gov[rebecca\_matulka@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Oluwarotimi Abimbola  
**Sent:** 2017-11-03T09:30:19-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** FOIA Request  
**Received:** 2017-11-03T09:30:46-04:00

Good morning Laura and Heather,  
Giving you a heads up that we are addressing a FOIA request that actually came through in the summer. It has some social media related questions. I'll forward over to you shortly you shortly and happy to chat about it with you and or Rebecca whenever you can.

Thanks,  
Rotimi

Sent from my iPhone



**To:** Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Julka, Clarice  
**Sent:** 2017-10-30T11:36:49-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** FOIA Request 17-01099 attached  
**Received:** 2017-10-30T11:37:16-04:00  
[17-01099qa.pdf](#)

Hello,  
Rob Howarth asked that I forward this request to you. Please let me know if you have any questions.

v/r  
Clarice

Clarice Julka  
Department of the Interior  
Office of the Secretary, FOIA Office  
1849 C Street, NW, MS-7328  
Washington, D.C. 20240  
[Clarice\\_Julka@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Clarice_Julka@ios.doi.gov)  
(202) 513-0765 - phone  
(202) 208-6045 - direct line  
(202) 219-2374 - fax

**To:** Paul Ross[paul\_ross@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]; Russell Newell[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov]; Laura Rigas[laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov]; April Slayton[april\_slayton@nps.gov]  
**From:** Barnum, Jeremy  
**Sent:** 2018-01-02T11:58:49-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** FOIA Request for Public Comments on Fees to be Posted Today  
**Received:** 2018-01-02T11:59:38-05:00

DOI Colleagues,

Heads up that the public comments on the seasonal-fee proposal are likely to be posted to the NPS FOIA "Reading Room" website today. This is in response to a pending FOIA request and in consultation with the Department. As you are aware, the public comment period concluded on December 22.

We expect numerous other media outlets and organizations to request the comments hence the decision to post them on the website.

Please let us know if you have any questions.

Best,

Jeremy K. Barnum  
Acting Chief of Public Affairs  
National Park Service  
Office: (202) 513-7262



[Facebook](#) [Twitter](#)  
[Instagram](#) [YouTube](#)

**To:** Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Eilperin, Juliet  
**Sent:** 2017-12-13T11:07:19-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** following up on the FOIA question  
**Received:** 2017-12-13T11:14:10-05:00

Dear Heather,

Do you think I could get the overall FOIA numbers today? I'd love to get the rate of increase compared to last year, as well as how many FOIA-related lawsuits the agency is facing (I know Matt Allen, who now works for BSEE, filed a new FOIA lawsuit yesterday).

Also, I did speak to April, but she referred me back to you on the question of why monument-related FOIA requests have been centralized in the Secretary's office. She thought it was a combination of the fact that a) you've been getting so many requests and b) the monument review involves more than one division in the department. If you can confirm whether that's the case, and provide a quote, that would be ideal, since it's really an overall departmental question rather than something just for a division (such as NPS).

Best, Juliet

Juliet Eilperin  
Senior National Affairs Correspondent  
Washington Post  
[Juliet.eilperin@washpost.com](mailto:Juliet.eilperin@washpost.com)  
(O) 202-334-7774  
(C) (b) (6)  
@eilperin

**To:** Paul Ross[paul\_ross@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** April Slayton[april\_slayton@nps.gov]; Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** jeremy\_barnum@nps.gov  
**Sent:** 2017-11-21T15:56:43-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** For DOI Review: Shenandoah National Park selling Trump wine?  
**Received:** 2017-11-21T15:56:59-05:00  
[trump wine at shenandoah np one.JPG](#)  
[trump wine at shenandoah np two.JPG](#)  
[foia trump wine park service.pdf](#)

Paul,

We received the below query from Bloomberg (and a similar query from E&E) about a wine being sold at Shenandoah NP. We've conferred with the park and would like to respond with the following:

*The wine you are referencing is not being sold by Shenandoah National Park, but rather by Delaware North Corporation, the park's licensed concessioner.*

*The National Park Service (NPS) authorizes concessioners to sell categories of retail goods and products like t-shirts, baseball hats, and in this case wine. However, the NPS does not specify what brands of these products should be sold.*

E&E is on deadline so hoping to respond soonest.

Thanks,  
Jeremy

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Ari Natter (BLOOMBERG/ NEWSROOM:) <[anatter5@bloomberg.net](mailto:anatter5@bloomberg.net)>  
**Date:** Tue, Nov 21, 2017 at 12:23 PM  
**Subject:** Fwd:Shennandoah National Park selling Trump wine?  
**To:** [newsmedia@nps.gov](mailto:newsmedia@nps.gov)

Hi --

Forwarding the below to include the general press e-mail box. Thanks again for your help.

**From:** Ari Natter (BLOOMBERG/ NEWSROOM:)  
**Subject:** Fwd:Shennandoah National Park selling Trump wine?

Hi guys --

Can you comment on this press release alleging that Shenandoah National Park is selling Trump wine? Is that true? If so, why isn't that a conflict of interest?

Thanks for any help you can give.

---

Ari Natter  
Reporter  
Bloomberg News  
202-807-2243 office  
(b) (6) cell  
@AriNatter  
Stories: [bloom.bg/2mBBE2I](http://bloom.bg/2mBBE2I)

--

National Park Service  
Office of Public Affairs

**To:** heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov];  
Interior\_Press@ios.doi.gov[Interior\_Press@ios.doi.gov]; Newell, Russell[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Ogrysko, Nicole  
**Sent:** 2017-12-12T16:32:34-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** From Federal News Radio: SES reassignment documents  
**Received:** 2017-12-12T16:32:45-05:00

Hi there,

My name is Nicole, and I'm a reporter with Federal News Radio.

We're writing about some of the documents that Interior recently posted on this site:

<https://www.doi.gov/foia/os/ses-reassignments>

Does the department have any plans to post more documents related to this topic? And/or, does Interior have a comment about the posting of these documents?

My ideal deadline for a comment is by 9 a.m. tomorrow, if at all possible.

Please let me know if you have any questions for me.

Thank you,

**Nicole Ogrysko**

Reporter -- Federal News Radio

Desk: [\(202\) 274-4823](tel:2022744823)

Mobile: (b) (6)

**To:** Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov];  
Interior\_Press@ios.doi.gov[Interior\_Press@ios.doi.gov]; DOJ / Department of Justice  
(Wyn.Hornbuckle@usdoj.gov)[Wyn.Hornbuckle@usdoj.gov]; DOJ / Department of Justice  
(mark.abueg@usdoj.gov)[mark.abueg@usdoj.gov]  
**From:** Brown, Matthew  
**Sent:** 2017-11-02T15:29:19-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** FW: Earthjustice - national monuments FOIA lawsuit  
**Received:** 2017-11-02T16:00:07-04:00  
[TIMESTAMPED COMPLAINT.PDF](#)  
[Earthjustice release - monuments FOIA lawsuit 11.2.2017.pdf](#)

Greetings Heather, Mark, Wyn, Interior Press Office-  
Hoping to get a response to FOIA lawsuit filed today by enviro groups over national monuments  
review. (lawsuit, press release attached)  
Please let me know if Interior/Justice have any response.  
(CEQ already declined comment)  
Matt Brown

**Matthew Brown**

Associated Press Correspondent

[mbrown@ap.org](mailto:mbrown@ap.org)

phone-406 896 1528

mobile: (b) (6)

fax-406 896 8117

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**To:** Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Michael Doyle  
**Sent:** 2017-10-05T12:49:14-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** FW: ICYMI: Suit filed for Records on Lolita Zinke Travel, Role at Department of the Interior  
**Received:** 2017-10-05T12:49:57-04:00

In case you missed it, American Oversight launched a joint investigation with Western Values Project into Lolita Zinke's taxpayer-funded travel.

**For Immediate Release**

October 5, 2017

**Media Contact:**

[press@americanoversight.org](mailto:press@americanoversight.org)  
[202-869-5242](tel:202-869-5242)

## **American Oversight Sues for Records on Lolita Zinke Travel, Role at Department of the Interior**

### *Watchdog Group Expands Investigation into Ryan Zinke's Management of Department of the Interior and Lolita Zinke's Taxpayer-Funded Travel*

Washington, DC – Non-partisan watchdog group American Oversight today sued the Department of the Interior (DOI) to force the release of records related to Lolita Zinke, wife of Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke, and her role at the department, use of taxpayer-funded travel, and participation in official meetings or other events.

The lawsuit was filed on behalf of the Montana-based Western Values Project which submitted the initial Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests seeking the records.

“Time and again we’ve seen how personal relationships and political loyalty trump competency in the current administration, and it appears the Department of the Interior is no different,” said American Oversight Executive Director Austin Evers. “We’re suing the Department of the Interior to uncover the truth about what role Secretary Zinke’s wife is playing in running the department, how much it’s costing taxpayers, and why she was jetting off to Europe with her husband on a military plane.”



"Under Secretary Zinke's leadership the Department of Interior has turned into a front group for special interests," said Chris Saeger, Executive Director of the Western Values Project. "We filed this FOIA because there should be transparency and accountability for everyone who influences Interior's decisions. If Lola Zinke is playing a role at Interior, taxpayers deserve to know if she is playing by the same rules as everyone else who works there."

Lolita Zinke has reportedly joined her husband extensively on his official travel – including on a military plane to Norway, Greenland, and Alaska – and has played an unusually prominent role at the Department of the Interior for the spouse of a cabinet secretary. On October 2<sup>nd</sup>, DOI's Inspector General announced it was [opening an investigation](#) into travel by Secretary Zinke.

The lawsuit is part of American Oversight's broader investigation into Secretary Zinke's management of DOI – including his [government-funded travel](#), his involvement in [relaxing standards for toxic chemicals](#), and meetings related to the construction of [President Trump's border wall](#). On Wednesday, American Oversight submitted an additional FOIA request seeking further details about Lolita Zinke's presence and activities at DOI.

In early June, the Western Values Project submitted a FOIA requests to DOI asking for records, communications and documents related to Lolita Zinke's role in the department, including her participation in internal meetings, presence on official trips, and emails sent to her in relation to government business. DOI failed to adequately respond to the FOIA requests as required by law, and American Oversight filed suit today on behalf of the Western Values Project in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia to force the release of relevant documents.

Click [HERE](#) to view the complaint.

Click [HERE](#) to read more about American Oversight's investigation into Ryan Zinke's management of DOI.

###

*American Oversight is a non-partisan, nonprofit ethics watchdog committed to holding the government accountable. With congressional oversight lacking, American Oversight is stepping in to uncover and publicize information about malfeasance and corruption by administration officials. Follow us at @weareoversight and learn more at <http://www.americanoversight.org>.*

*The Western Values Project advocates for a responsible approach to the management of public lands and parks throughout the American West. We hold public officials accountable who allow special interests to jeopardize iconic landscapes and their value to the outdoor economy. Learn more at [www.westernvaluesproject.org](http://www.westernvaluesproject.org) and @Western\_Values.*

**Connect with Us**

[Info@westernvaluesproject.org](mailto:Info@westernvaluesproject.org)  
**UNSUBSCRIBE**

**To:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Michael Doyle  
**Sent:** 2017-11-14T12:04:12-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** FW: Joel Clement Sues DOI  
**Received:** 2017-11-14T12:04:33-05:00

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**From:** Kendra Barkoff [<mailto:kbarkoff@skdknick.com>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 14, 2017 11:51 AM  
**To:** Kendra Barkoff <[kbarkoff@skdknick.com](mailto:kbarkoff@skdknick.com)>  
**Subject:** Joel Clement Sues DOI

Dear Reporters,

After months being stonewalled by U.S. Interior Secretary Zinke and the Department of the Interior (DOI) today Katherine Atkinson on behalf of her client, Joel Clement, the first [Trump Administration whistleblower](#) filed a lawsuit demanding the release of records relating to the movement of career SES Interior employees. For months, DOI has refused to turn over a single document after more than 30 FOIA requests. “The Freedom of Information Act was passed in order to reassure Americans that their government was capable of operating in an open and transparent manner,” said Joel Clement. “It is remarkable the extent to which the Trump Administration is working to keep their deliberations behind closed doors. We know these documents exist and we know the public has a right to see them, but Secretary Zinke and his staff are determined to work in secret and take the ‘public’ out of public service.”

Read the lawsuit [HERE](#).

Please let me know if you are interested in speaking with Joel or Katherine.

Kendra

Kendra Barkoff | SKDKnickerbocker  
1150 18th Street, Suite 800 | Washington, D.C., 20036  
o: 202.464.9531 | c: (b) (6) | [kbarkoff@skdknick.com](mailto:kbarkoff@skdknick.com)  
[www.SKDKnick.com](http://www.SKDKnick.com)

**To:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Love, Kelly A. EOP/WHO  
**Sent:** 2017-11-03T09:19:07-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** FW: White House Environmntal Quality Council lawsuit - comment?  
**Received:** 2017-11-03T09:19:16-04:00

Hi Heather - How is this being handled?

---

**From:** Emily.Flitter@thomsonreuters.com [mailto:Emily.Flitter@thomsonreuters.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, November 3, 2017 9:16 AM  
**To:** Love, Kelly A. EOP/WHO (b) (6)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] White House Environmntal Quality Council lawsuit - comment?

Hi,

Yesterday, six environmental groups sued Interior and the White House Council on Environmental Quality over FOIA requests the groups said Interior and the WH CEQ aren't honoring. Here's the complaint

<https://earthjustice.org/sites/default/files/files/Monuments-FOIA-Complaint-timestamped.pdf>

I'm writing a short story on this – do you want to comment, please? I'm on my cell today: (b) (6)

██████████

Best,  
Emily

**Emily Flitter**  
Correspondent  
**Thomson Reuters**  
Phone: 1 646 223 6310  
@FlitterOnFraud  
thomsonreuters.com

**To:** heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov];  
interior\_press@ios.doi.gov[interior\_press@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Scott Streater  
**Sent:** 2017-09-29T13:08:58-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** FW: WVP Lawsuit takes aim at Zinke's attempts to politicize Interior staffing decisions  
**Received:** 2017-09-29T13:09:23-04:00  
[WVP complaint-FILED.pdf](#)

Heather,  
Sorry to keep bugging you with stuff, but I wanted to see if Interior can comment on this federal lawsuit?  
If not, that's OK, just let me know. Thanks!

Scott Streater  
E&E News reporter  
sstreater@eenews.net  
719-264-0923 (office)  
(b) (6) (mobile)

---

**E&E NEWS**

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Energywire, Climatewire, Greenwire, E&E Daily, E&E News PM

---

**From:** Chris Saeger [chris@westernvaluesproject.org]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 29, 2017 11:02 AM  
**To:** Scott Streater  
**Subject:** WVP Lawsuit takes aim at Zinke's attempts to politicize Interior staffing decisions

A Voice for the Majority in the American West

---

## Lawsuit takes aim at Zinke's attempts to politicize Interior staffing decisions

*Documents show Zinke filled employee board with political cronies*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

Friday, September 29, 2017

**CONTACT:**

Jayson O'Neill, Deputy Director  
Western Values Project

[jayson@westernvaluesproject.org](mailto:jayson@westernvaluesproject.org)

[406-570-5019](tel:406-570-5019)

Whitefish, Mont. -- Following reports that Department of the Interior Secretary Ryan

Zinke filled an employee board **entirely** with political appointees, the Western Values Project, a Montana-based public lands watchdog, filed suit in federal court to force the disclosure of documents related to the board's activities. [Politico first reported](#) that the Executive Resources Board (ERB) is entirely comprised of political appointees, breaking precedent and ignoring the guidance of government ethics authorities. This suit comes as Secretary Zinke is taking [heavy criticism](#) for his accusation that many career employees at DOI are not politically loyal to the Trump administration. "We will not allow Secretary Zinke to transform Interior into a K Street lobbying shop for the special interests that want to exploit public lands at the expense of Western communities," **said Chris Saeger, Executive Director of the Western Values Project.** "The only thing worse than Interior's attempts to keep this effort secret is the fact that Secretary Zinke is flouting the norms that are supposed to maintain a balanced, even-handed approach to public lands management. " A good deal of the appointees come from the resource extraction industry that DOI is supposed to regulate -- a clear sign that Secretary Zinke is stacking the deck at the agency with political operatives loyal to his and President Trump's campaign backers. Western Values Project uncovered the names of the board members as the result of a Freedom of Information Act Request. However, DOI has delayed the release of additional documents related to the board's work.

See the lawsuit at this link.

-30-

--

Chris Saeger  
Executive Director  
Western Values Project  
406-438-1918  
[@Western\\_Values](#)

**To:** heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Downey Magallanes  
**Sent:** 2017-12-04T11:13:09-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd:  
**Received:** 2017-12-04T11:27:02-05:00  
[ATT00001.htm](#)  
[Revised Final Report.pdf](#)

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Howarth, Robert" <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Date:** December 4, 2017 at 10:21:14 AM EST  
**To:** Downey Magallanes <[downey\\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov](mailto:downey_magallanes@ios.doi.gov)>

--

Robert Howarth  
Deputy Director for Correspondence and FOIA Management  
Office of the Executive Secretariat and Regulatory Affairs  
Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20240  
202-208-3181  
202-208-4451 (direct)  
202-549-8961 (cell)

**To:** russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov];  
alex\_hinson@ios.doi.gov[alex\_hinson@ios.doi.gov];  
frank\_quimby@ios.doi.gov[frank\_quimby@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Heather Swift  
**Sent:** 2017-10-12T12:34:39-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd: (Press) Comment re MoU on Community Relocation  
**Received:** 2017-10-12T12:35:24-04:00  
[ATT00001.htm](#)  
[Final Response Package 17-01447.pdf](#)

Frank, hoping you can help me out her. see the attached interagency MOU on relocating communities. Which hallways other than ASIA and BIA should I include in this?

Heather Swift  
Press Secretary  
Department of the Interior

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Kyla Mandel (b) (6) >  
**To:** Heather Swift <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Cc:** "[Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)" <[Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: (Press) Comment re MoU on Community Relocation

Hi Heather,

Attached is the MoU which on the third page of the attached document lists the other agencies.

Many thanks,  
Kyla

On Thu, Oct 12, 2017 at 11:34 AM, Heather Swift <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Kyla, Can you please send me the documents you're referencing, the location of the project, and the other agencies involved?

Thanks!  
Heather Swift  
Press Secretary

Sent from my iPad

On Oct 12, 2017, at 11:26 AM, Kyla Mandel (b) (6) > wrote:



Hi there,

I'm a journalist writing a story for Mother Jones about community relocation due to extreme weather. I understand that the Department of Interior was involved in an interagency working group on this subject. I have also obtained via FOIA the Memorandum of Understanding regarding "community-led managed retreat and voluntary relocation."

I am requesting comment on the following questions:

- Since the MoU was signed in December 2016/January 2017 what work has the Department done on its goals for this plan?
- As the MoU outlines, the group should meet every other month. In addition, it states that within 9 months of signing the MoU, an "action plan" should be developed. Has the Department met these deadlines? If yes, can you please provide a status update as to where the project currently sits. If no, please explain why not.

My deadline is this Friday, October 13 at 3pm.

Many thanks,  
Kyla

--

**KYLA MANDEL**  
Journalist | NYC | London

[kylamandel.com](http://kylamandel.com)

tweet: @kylamandel  
skype: kyla.mandel  
call: (US) [917-325-6483](tel:917-325-6483)  
(UK) [+44 7807138642](tel:+44-7807138642)

--

**KYLA MANDEL**  
Journalist | NYC | London

[kylamandel.com](http://kylamandel.com)

tweet: @kylamandel  
skype: kyla.mandel  
call: (US) 917-325-6483  
(UK) +44 7807138642

**To:** Paul Ross[paul\_ross@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** April Slayton[april\_slayton@nps.gov]; Russell Newell[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov]; Laura Rigas[laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov]; Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Barnum, Jeremy  
**Sent:** 2017-10-25T18:35:17-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd: \*\*\*Pending FOIA Release\*\*\* 17-1314 Moyer Trump ANTI donation - Invitation to collaborate  
**Received:** 2017-10-25T18:35:58-04:00

Hi Paul,  
Flagging the below pending FOIA release (the docs are too big to send as attachments, let me know if you have trouble with the Google folder). I've started to scan it but will go through it further tomorrow.

Thanks,

Jeremy K. Barnum  
Acting Chief of Public Affairs  
National Park Service  
Office: (202) 513-7262



[Facebook](#) [Twitter](#)  
[Instagram](#) [YouTube](#)

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Charis Wilson (via Google Drive) <[drive-shares-noreply@google.com](mailto:drive-shares-noreply@google.com)>  
**Date:** Wed, Oct 25, 2017 at 5:10 PM  
**Subject:** \*\*\*Pending FOIA Release\*\*\* 17-1314 Moyer Trump ANTI donation - Invitation to collaborate  
**To:** [jeremy\\_barnum@nps.gov](mailto:jeremy_barnum@nps.gov)  
**Cc:** [Robert\\_Howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Robert_Howarth@ios.doi.gov), [april\\_slayton@nps.gov](mailto:april_slayton@nps.gov), [Jeffrey\\_Olson@nps.gov](mailto:Jeffrey_Olson@nps.gov), [christopher\\_watts@nps.gov](mailto:christopher_watts@nps.gov)

charis\_wilson@nps.gov has invited you to **contribute to** the following shared folder:

**\*\*\*Pending FOIA Release\*\*\* 17-1314 Moyer Trump ANTI donation**

Hi everyone,

Just wanted to give everyone a heads up about a pending FOIA release of records relating to the allocation of the President's donation to two projects at Antietam National Military Park. The requester is a reporter with the Washington Post. I've loaded a copy of the request, our response letter, and the redacted documents, in the format they will be released, onto Google Drive for your review.

Unless I hear something to the contrary I will plan on sending our response out this Friday, October 27th. Feel free to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Charis Wilson, Ph.D., CRM  
NPS FOIA Officer  
303-969-2959

Open

Google Drive: Have all your files within reach from any device.

Google Inc. [1600 Amphitheatre Parkway, Mountain View, CA 94043, USA](#)

**To:** Paul Ross[paul\_ross@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** April Slayton[april\_slayton@nps.gov]; Laura Rigas[laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov]; Russell Newell[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov]; Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Barnum, Jeremy  
**Sent:** 2017-11-15T15:52:22-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd: \*\*\*Pending Release\*\*\* 17-1087 Scott GLAC AIS - Proposed Full Release Second Review Set - Invitation to collaborate  
**Received:** 2017-11-15T15:53:03-05:00

Hi Paul,

Heads up on the below pending FOIA release likely to go out next week related to boats/invasive species at Glacier National Park. Note the email on page 1216 in Part 2. Please let me know if you have trouble accessing the documents on the Google Drive (files are too large to send as attachments).

A second set of documents will likely go out at the end of the month. We'll flag those for you as well once we see them.

Jeremy K. Barnum  
Acting Chief of Public Affairs  
National Park Service  
Office: (202) 513-7262

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Charis Wilson (via Google Drive) <[drive-shares-noreply@google.com](mailto:drive-shares-noreply@google.com)>  
**Date:** Wed, Nov 15, 2017 at 3:04 PM  
**Subject:** \*\*\*Pending Release\*\*\* 17-1087 Scott GLAC AIS - Proposed Full Release Second Review Set - Invitation to collaborate  
**To:** [jeremy\\_barnum@nps.gov](mailto:jeremy_barnum@nps.gov)  
**Cc:** [Robert\\_Howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Robert_Howarth@ios.doi.gov)

charis\_wilson@nps.gov has invited you to **contribute to** the following shared folder:

**\*\*\*Pending Release\*\*\* 17-1087 Scott GLAC AIS - Proposed Full Release  
Second Review Set**

Hi Jeremy and Rob,

Just a heads up about a pending release of documents relating to the boating issue at Glacier. This first release, which I'm hoping to be able to get out next week, will consist of the about 3000 pages that we are releasing in full. As an FYI this batch includes the June 27 email from Paul Austin (Chief Ranger) that notified folks that "Jeff and I were directed today by Secretary Zinke to find ways for the taxpayers to be able to use their motorboats in our park waters". It is in Part 2 on page 1216.

The next and hopefully final release will consist of another 1400 or so pages that we are doing various redactions on. I hope to have completed my review and the parks' follow-up review on those materials by the end of the month.

Feel free to contact me with any questions.

Thanks,

Charis Wilson, Ph.D., CRM  
NPS FOIA Officer  
303-969-2959

Open

Google Drive: Have all your files within reach from any device.

Google Inc. [1600 Amphitheatre Parkway, Mountain View, CA 94043, USA](https://www.google.com)

**To:** jason\_larrabee@ios.doi.gov[jason\_larrabee@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov[laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov];  
heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Downey Magallanes  
**Sent:** 2017-12-13T15:33:32-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd: \*\*\*PENDING RELEASE\*\*\* 18-162 Dillon GLAC Zinke visit - Invitation to collaborate  
**Received:** 2017-12-13T15:33:40-05:00

Were you aware of this one? I have looked through so Laura up to you on when this should go. Jason you may want to confirm whether or not this needs to go- I am not sure (b) (5)

[REDACTED]. Also I am not entirely clear on why (b) (5)

[REDACTED] We need to have a discussion in person on (b) (5)

[REDACTED].

Downey

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "NPS FOIA (via Google Drive)" <[drive-shares-noreply@google.com](mailto:drive-shares-noreply@google.com)>  
**Date:** December 13, 2017 at 1:59:46 PM EST  
**To:** <[downey\\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov](mailto:downey_magallanes@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Cc:** <[april\\_slayton@nps.gov](mailto:april_slayton@nps.gov)>, <[jeremy\\_barnum@nps.gov](mailto:jeremy_barnum@nps.gov)>, <[jeffrey\\_olson@nps.gov](mailto:jeffrey_olson@nps.gov)>, <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)>, <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)>, <[charis\\_wilson@nps.gov](mailto:charis_wilson@nps.gov)>  
**Subject:** \*\*\*PENDING RELEASE\*\*\* 18-162 Dillon GLAC Zinke visit - Invitation to collaborate  
**Reply-To:** NPS FOIA <[npsfoia@nps.gov](mailto:npsfoia@nps.gov)>

npsfoia@nps.gov has invited you to **contribute to** the following shared folder:

**\*\*\*PENDING RELEASE\*\*\* 18-162 Dillon GLAC Zinke visit**

Hi Everyone,

I just wanted to give you a heads up about another pending FOIA release. This request was for records held by Glacier National Park relating to Secretary Zinke's visit there in March. Aside from a few redactions of a personal cell phone number and conference call information, we are planning on releasing everything.

The park is hoping to be able to get their response out tomorrow which is the 20th day. So if I don't hear anything to the contrary by tomorrow morning, I will advise the park that they can proceed with issuing their response.

Feel free to contact me with any questions.

Thanks,

Charis Wilson, Ph.D., CRM  
NPS FOIA Officer  
303-969-2959

[Open](#)

Google Drive: Have all your files within reach from any device.

Google Inc. 1600 Amphitheatre Parkway, Mountain View, CA 94043, USA

**To:** Paul Ross[paul\_ross@ios.doi.gov]; Russell Newell[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov]; Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Barnum, Jeremy  
**Sent:** 2017-12-13T14:40:49-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd: \*\*\*PENDING RELEASE\*\*\* 18-162 Dillon GLAC Zinke visit - Invitation to collaborate  
**Received:** 2017-12-13T14:41:26-05:00

FYI

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** NPS FOIA (via Google Drive) <[drive-shares-noreply@google.com](mailto:drive-shares-noreply@google.com)>  
**Date:** Wed, Dec 13, 2017 at 1:59 PM  
**Subject:** \*\*\*PENDING RELEASE\*\*\* 18-162 Dillon GLAC Zinke visit - Invitation to collaborate  
**To:** [jeremy\\_barnum@nps.gov](mailto:jeremy_barnum@nps.gov)  
**Cc:** [april\\_slayton@nps.gov](mailto:april_slayton@nps.gov), [jeffrey\\_olson@nps.gov](mailto:jeffrey_olson@nps.gov), [robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov), [laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov), [downey\\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov](mailto:downey_magallanes@ios.doi.gov), [charis\\_wilson@nps.gov](mailto:charis_wilson@nps.gov)

npsfoia@nps.gov has invited you to **contribute to** the following shared folder:

**\*\*\*PENDING RELEASE\*\*\* 18-162 Dillon GLAC Zinke visit**

Hi Everyone,

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Feel free to contact me with any questions.

Thanks,

Charis Wilson, Ph.D., CRM  
NPS FOIA Officer  
303-969-2959

[Open](#)

Google Drive: Have all your files within reach from any device.

Google Inc. [1600 Amphitheatre Parkway, Mountain View, CA 94043, USA](https://www.google.com)



**To:** heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Laura Rigas  
**Sent:** 2017-12-13T14:03:48-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd: \*\*\*PENDING RELEASE\*\*\* 18-162 Dillon GLAC Zinke visit - Invitation to collaborate  
**Received:** 2017-12-13T14:09:52-05:00

Laura Keehner Rigas  
Communications Director  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 897-7022 cell  
@Interior

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "NPS FOIA (via Google Drive)" <[drive-shares-noreply@google.com](mailto:drive-shares-noreply@google.com)>  
**Date:** December 13, 2017 at 1:59:46 PM EST  
**To:** <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Cc:** <[april\\_slayton@nps.gov](mailto:april_slayton@nps.gov)>, <[jeremy\\_barnum@nps.gov](mailto:jeremy_barnum@nps.gov)>, <[jeffrey\\_olson@nps.gov](mailto:jeffrey_olson@nps.gov)>, <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)>, <[downey\\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov](mailto:downey_magallanes@ios.doi.gov)>, <[charis\\_wilson@nps.gov](mailto:charis_wilson@nps.gov)>  
**Subject:** \*\*\*PENDING RELEASE\*\*\* 18-162 Dillon GLAC Zinke visit - Invitation to collaborate  
**Reply-To:** NPS FOIA <[npsfoia@nps.gov](mailto:npsfoia@nps.gov)>

npsfoia@nps.gov has invited you to **contribute to** the following shared folder:

**\*\*\*PENDING RELEASE\*\*\* 18-162 Dillon GLAC Zinke visit**

Hi Everyone,

I just wanted to give you a heads up about another pending FOIA release. This request was for records held by Glacier National Park relating to Secretary Zinke's visit there in March. Aside from a few redactions of a personal cell phone number and conference call information, we are planning on releasing everything.

The park is hoping to be able to get their response out tomorrow which is the 20th day. So if I don't hear anything to the contrary by tomorrow morning, I will advise the park that they can proceed with issuing their response.

Feel free to contact me with any questions.

Thanks,

Charis Wilson, Ph.D., CRM  
NPS FOIA Officer

303-969-2959

Open

Google Drive: Have all your files within reach from any device.

Google Inc. 1600 Amphitheatre Parkway, Mountain View, CA 94043, USA

**To:** Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]; Russell Newell[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Laura Rigas  
**Sent:** 2017-08-20T22:04:36-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd: \*\*\*Pending Release\*\*\* Zuckerberg FOIA packet for ExecSec review  
**Received:** 2017-08-20T22:05:21-04:00  
[ATT00001.htm](#)  
[Zuckerberg Visit combined wProposedRedactions\\_PostOS\\_v2.pdf](#)  
[Zuckerberg GLAC visit Requests.pdf](#)  
[ATT00002.htm](#)

Laura Keehner Rigas  
Communications Director  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 897-7022 cell  
@Interior

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Howarth, Robert" <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)>  
**To:** Laura Rigas <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Subject:** Fwd: \*\*\*Pending Release\*\*\* Zuckerberg FOIA packet for ExecSec review

Laura, for your review and awareness. Any questions, call me.

Rob

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** FOIA, NPS <[npsfoia@nps.gov](mailto:npsfoia@nps.gov)>  
**Date:** Fri, Aug 18, 2017 at 4:48 PM  
**Subject:** \*\*\*Pending Release\*\*\* Zuckerberg FOIA packet for ExecSec review  
**To:** Robert Howarth <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Cc:** Clarice Julka <[os\\_foia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:os_foia@ios.doi.gov)>, "May, Brian" <[bmay@usgs.gov](mailto:bmay@usgs.gov)>, "S. Litsa Marinos" <[smarinos@usgs.gov](mailto:smarinos@usgs.gov)>, Andrea Quick <[andrea\\_quick@nps.gov](mailto:andrea_quick@nps.gov)>

Hi Rob,

We have received about a half dozen requests for FOIAs relating to Mr. Zuckerber's visit to Glacier, including one from a reporter with the Washington Post., copies of which are attached. Because some of the materials contain ExecSec information and the decision that prompted the FOIAs was made at the DOI level, I wanted to give staff at DOI a chance to review the materials before I post them on our FOIA reading room.

I will be out (b) (6) through the 24th. And am planning to post the materials on Friday the 25th barring any objections. Also as an FYI, both USGS and OS have received similar requests. Brian May at USGS is out next week, but if you have

questions about their materials you can reach out to Litsa Marinos  
<[smarinos@usgs.gov](mailto:smarinos@usgs.gov)> as she is working on their Zuckerberg materials in Brian's  
absence.

Thanks,

C.

---

Ms. Charis Wilson, PhD, CRM  
NPS FOIA Officer  
12795 W. Alameda Parkway  
PO Box 25287  
Denver, CO 80225-0287  
303-969-2959  
Fax: 303-969-2557  
1-855-NPS-FOIA  
[npsfoia@nps.gov](mailto:npsfoia@nps.gov)

--

Robert Howarth  
Deputy Director for Correspondence and FOIA Management  
Office of the Executive Secretariat and Regulatory Affairs  
Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20240  
202-208-3181  
202-208-4451 (direct)  
202-549-8961 (cell)

**To:** Paul Ross[paul\_ross@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** April Slayton[april\_slayton@nps.gov]; Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]; Russell Newell[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov]; Laura Rigas[laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Barnum, Jeremy  
**Sent:** 2017-09-20T15:19:55-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd: 17-1134 Moyer President Salary donation to ANTI - Search Request (EXPEDITED PROCESSING)  
**Received:** 2017-09-20T15:20:36-04:00

Paul,  
FYI that the same WP reporter who wrote a recent [story](#) on the President's donation to Antietam National Battlefield has submitted a related FOIA request.

Thanks,

Jeremy K. Barnum  
Acting Chief of Public Affairs  
National Park Service  
Office: (202) 513-7262



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[Instagram](#) [YouTube](#)

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** FOIA, NPS <[npsfoia@nps.gov](mailto:npsfoia@nps.gov)>  
**Date:** Fri, Sep 15, 2017 at 12:53 PM  
**Subject:** 17-1134 Moyer President Salary donation to ANTI - Search Request (EXPEDITED PROCESSING)  
**To:** Jennifer Mummart <[jennifer\\_mummart@nps.gov](mailto:jennifer_mummart@nps.gov)>, Thomas Crosson <[Thomas\\_Crosson@nps.gov](mailto:Thomas_Crosson@nps.gov)>, April Slayton <[april\\_slayton@nps.gov](mailto:april_slayton@nps.gov)>

Hi All,

We have received the FOIA below. I initially provided him with copies of the information we had released back in April when the donation was first made. However, he has indicated that that information is interesting, what he is really looking for are records showing how those funds are being used, especially anything relating to the July 5, 2017, press conference at ANTI when Sec. Zinke visited and announced that there were going to be three matching donations.

I received the search results from ANTI yesterday and after reviewing those materials I have determined that you may also have records that are responsive to this request. So I'm reaching out to you to request that you search your files.

**When:**  
June 16, 2017 - September 14, 2017

**What:**

Emails and any other records that relate to the donation made by President Trump to NPS, including any records showing its disbursement to or plans to earmark the funds for ANTI. He also wants records relating to arrangements for a July 5, 2017, press conference held by Sec. Zinke at ANTI where several "matching" donations were made.

Please share your results with [NPSFOIA@nps.gov](mailto:NPSFOIA@nps.gov) and my email via GoogleDrive. Mark your folder something like: 17-1134 [Your Name] Search Results

That way I will know which of the more than 90 open requests I am currently working on the materials belong to.

This request has been granted **expedited** processing, which means we need to process it as soon as practicable. Feel free to contact me with any questions and thank you, in advance, for your help on this one.

Thanks,

C.

---

Ms. Charis Wilson, PhD, CRM  
NPS FOIA Officer  
[12795 W. Alameda Parkway](#)  
PO Box 25287  
Denver, CO 80225-0287  
303-969-2959  
Fax: 303-969-2557  
1-855-NPS-FOIA  
[npsfoia@nps.gov](mailto:npsfoia@nps.gov)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **U.S. Department of the Interior** <[doi-webforms@ios.doi.gov](mailto:doi-webforms@ios.doi.gov)>  
Date: Mon, Aug 21, 2017 at 3:15 PM  
Subject: FOIA from: Justin Moyer  
To: [npsfoia@nps.gov](mailto:npsfoia@nps.gov)

Submitted on Monday, August 21, 2017 - 5:15pm  
Submitted by anonymous user: [10.156.8.158]  
Submitted values are:

Your Name: Justin Moyer  
Mailing Address: [1301 K St. NW](#)  
City: Washington  
State or Country: District of Columbia  
Zip or Postal Code: 20071  
Address Type: Business  
Daytime Phone Number: (b) (6)  
Fax Number:

E-mail Address: [justin.moyer@washpost.com](mailto:justin.moyer@washpost.com)

Confirm E-mail Address : [justin.moyer@washpost.com](mailto:justin.moyer@washpost.com)

Your Organization: The Washington Post

Are you filing the request on behalf of another party? No

If so, who are you filing the request on behalf of?

Contact Information Certification: I certify that the above statement(s) concerning who I am filing the request on behalf of are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief. If I want to receive greater access to records about a person I represent, I will submit proof that the person consents to the release of the records to me, as discussed in 43 C.F.R. § 2.9.

Bureau/Office: National Park Service (NPS)

Relevant park, refuge, site or other location: Antietam National Battlefield

Request Description: Any and all correspondence, electronic or otherwise, related to President Trump's donation to Antietam National Battlefield.

Requester's Communication Preferences: Electronic communication via email

Document Disclosure Preferences: Electronic copies via email

Select the applicable reason why you are requesting expedited processing: There is an urgency to inform the public concerning actual or alleged Federal government activity and the request is made by a person primarily engaged in disseminating information.

Justification for Expedited Processing: I am a Washington Post journalist writing about Confederate memorials in the wake of the Charlottesville attack.

Expedited Processing Certification: I certify that the above statement(s) concerning expedited processing are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Please select the appropriate statement: I am requesting a waiver or reduction of fees.

I agree to pay fees up to this particular amount: \$100

To assist in determining my requester category to assess fees, you should know that I am: a representative of the news media and this request is made as part of a news gathering effort and not for commercial use

Affiliated Organization: The Washington Post

Check the boxes to the right to confirm that you meet the Department's fee waiver criteria:

- Disclosure of the information is in the public interest because it is likely to contribute significantly to public understanding of the operations or activities of the Government.
- Disclosure of the information is not primarily in my commercial interest.

Please explain why your request for a waiver of fees or a reduction in fees is justified.: I am a Washington Post journalist writing about Confederate memorials in the wake of the Charlottesville attack.

The results of this submission may be viewed at:

<https://www.doi.gov/node/11498/submission/305800>

**To:** Micah Chambers[micah\_chambers@ios.doi.gov]; Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]; russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Laura Rigas  
**Sent:** 2017-10-11T20:01:43-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd: 24 HOUR HOLD: 17-00371 AND 17-00475  
**Received:** 2017-10-11T20:11:28-04:00  
[ATT00001.htm](#)  
[00371cl \(Schedules and briefings\).pdf](#)  
[00371cn \(expenses\).pdf](#)  
[ATT00002.htm](#)  
[00475cf \(Gregory Myers 7.27.17\).pdf](#)  
[ATT00003.htm](#)  
[Travel FOIA's.pdf](#)  
[ATT00004.htm](#)

Laura Keehner Rigas  
Communications Director  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 897-7022 cell  
@Interior

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Howarth, Robert" <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)>  
**To:** Laura Rigas <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Subject:** Fwd: 24 HOUR HOLD: 17-00371 AND 17-00475

FOIA Ping, Part 2. Please call me.

Rob

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** **Howarth, Robert** <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Date:** Tue, Oct 10, 2017 at 4:10 PM  
**Subject:** Fwd: 24 HOUR HOLD: 17-00371 AND 17-00475  
**To:** Downey Magallanes <[downey\\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov](mailto:downey_magallanes@ios.doi.gov)>

24-hour ping...please review. Attached are the incoming. Please call me with any questions.

Thanks, Rob

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** **Julka, Clarice** <[clarice\\_julka@ios.doi.gov](mailto:clarice_julka@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Date:** Fri, Oct 6, 2017 at 12:56 PM  
**Subject:** 24 HOUR HOLD: 17-00371 AND 17-00475  
**To:** Robert Howarth <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)>



Rob,

Attached are the records we intend to release Wednesday for these FOIA. Both requests were reviewed by Brett Myrick of SOL.

Clarice Julka  
Department of the Interior  
Office of the Secretary, FOIA Office  
1849 C Street, NW, MS-7328  
Washington, D.C. 20240  
[Clarice\\_Julka@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Clarice_Julka@ios.doi.gov)  
(202) 513-0765 - phone  
(202) 208-6045 - direct line  
(202) 219-2374 - fax

--

Robert Howarth  
Deputy Director for Correspondence and FOIA Management  
Office of the Executive Secretariat and Regulatory Affairs  
Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20240  
202-208-3181  
202-208-4451 (direct)  
202-549-8961 (cell)

--

Robert Howarth  
Deputy Director for Correspondence and FOIA Management  
Office of the Executive Secretariat and Regulatory Affairs  
Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20240  
202-208-3181  
202-208-4451 (direct)  
202-549-8961 (cell)

**To:** Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]; Russell Newell[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Laura Rigas  
**Sent:** 2017-10-11T20:01:30-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd: 24 HOUR HOLD: 17-00371 AND 17-00475  
**Received:** 2017-10-11T20:02:35-04:00  
[ATT00001.htm](#)  
[17-00371 and others Final Response b6 b7.docx](#)  
[17-00475 partial response b6.docx](#)  
[ATT00002.htm](#)

Laura Keehner Rigas  
Communications Director  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 897-7022 cell  
@Interior

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Howarth, Robert" <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Date:** October 11, 2017 at 2:14:31 PM EDT  
**To:** Laura Rigas <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Subject:** Fwd: 24 HOUR HOLD: 17-00371 AND 17-00475

FOIA Ping, Part 1...Rob  
----- Forwarded message -----  
**From:** **Howarth, Robert** <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Date:** Wed, Oct 11, 2017 at 7:07 AM  
**Subject:** Fwd: 24 HOUR HOLD: 17-00371 AND 17-00475  
**To:** Downey Magallanes <[downey\\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov](mailto:downey_magallanes@ios.doi.gov)>

Hi Downey...attached are the two outgoing drafts for the FOIA's that I pinged you on yesterday.

Rob  
----- Forwarded message -----  
**From:** **Julka, Clarice** <[clarice\\_julka@ios.doi.gov](mailto:clarice_julka@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Date:** Wed, Oct 11, 2017 at 7:00 AM  
**Subject:** Re: 24 HOUR HOLD: 17-00371 AND 17-00475  
**To:** "Howarth, Robert" <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)>

Here are the draft letters.  
Clarice

Clarice Julka  
Department of the Interior  
Office of the Secretary, FOIA Office  
1849 C Street, NW, MS-7328  
Washington, D.C. 20240  
[Clarice\\_Julka@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Clarice_Julka@ios.doi.gov)  
(202) 513-0765 - phone  
(202) 208-6045 - direct line  
(202) 219-2374 - fax

On Tue, Oct 10, 2017 at 12:45 PM, Howarth, Robert <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)>  
wrote:

Clarice, could you attach your draft outing letters as well as the incoming requests.

Thanks, Rob

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Julka, Clarice** <[clarice\\_julka@ios.doi.gov](mailto:clarice_julka@ios.doi.gov)>  
Date: Fri, Oct 6, 2017 at 12:56 PM  
Subject: 24 HOUR HOLD: 17-00371 AND 17-00475  
To: Robert Howarth <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)>

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were reviewed by Brett Myrick of SOL.

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Robert Howarth  
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Washington, DC 20240  
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202-549-8961 (cell)

--

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Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20240  
202-208-3181  
202-208-4451 (direct)  
202-549-8961 (cell)

**To:** Micah Chambers[micah\_chambers@ios.doi.gov]; Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]; russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Laura Rigas  
**Sent:** 2017-10-11T19:04:55-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd: 24 HOUR HOLD: 17-00371 AND 17-00475  
**Received:** 2017-10-11T19:08:35-04:00  
[ATT00001.htm](#)  
[00371cl \(Schedules and briefings\).pdf](#)  
[00371cn \(expenses\).pdf](#)  
[ATT00002.htm](#)  
[00475cf \(Gregory Myers 7.27.17\).pdf](#)  
[ATT00003.htm](#)  
[Travel FOIA's.pdf](#)  
[ATT00004.htm](#)

Laura Keehner Rigas  
Communications Director  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 897-7022 cell  
@Interior

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Howarth, Robert" <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)>  
**To:** Laura Rigas <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Subject:** Fwd: 24 HOUR HOLD: 17-00371 AND 17-00475

FOIA Ping, Part 2. Please call me.

Rob

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** **Howarth, Robert** <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Date:** Tue, Oct 10, 2017 at 4:10 PM  
**Subject:** Fwd: 24 HOUR HOLD: 17-00371 AND 17-00475  
**To:** Downey Magallanes <[downey\\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov](mailto:downey_magallanes@ios.doi.gov)>

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**From:** **Julka, Clarice** <[clarice\\_julka@ios.doi.gov](mailto:clarice_julka@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Date:** Fri, Oct 6, 2017 at 12:56 PM  
**Subject:** 24 HOUR HOLD: 17-00371 AND 17-00475  
**To:** Robert Howarth <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)>

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Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20240  
202-208-3181  
202-208-4451 (direct)  
202-549-8961 (cell)

**To:** Newell, Russell[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov]; Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Rigas, Laura  
**Sent:** 2017-10-11T16:04:06-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd: 24 HOUR HOLD: 17-00371 AND 17-00475  
**Received:** 2017-10-11T16:04:15-04:00  
[17-00371 and others Final Response b6 b7.docx](#)  
[17-00475 partial response b6.docx](#)

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** **Howarth, Robert** <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Date:** Wed, Oct 11, 2017 at 2:14 PM  
**Subject:** Fwd: 24 HOUR HOLD: 17-00371 AND 17-00475  
**To:** Laura Rigas <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)>

FOIA Ping, Part 1...Rob

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** **Howarth, Robert** <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Date:** Wed, Oct 11, 2017 at 7:07 AM  
**Subject:** Fwd: 24 HOUR HOLD: 17-00371 AND 17-00475  
**To:** Downey Magallanes <[downey\\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov](mailto:downey_magallanes@ios.doi.gov)>

Hi Downey...attached are the two outgoing drafts for the FOIA's that I pinged you on yesterday.

Rob

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** **Julka, Clarice** <[clarice\\_julka@ios.doi.gov](mailto:clarice_julka@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Date:** Wed, Oct 11, 2017 at 7:00 AM  
**Subject:** Re: 24 HOUR HOLD: 17-00371 AND 17-00475  
**To:** "Howarth, Robert" <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)>

Here are the draft letters.

Clarice

Clarice Julka  
Department of the Interior  
Office of the Secretary, FOIA Office  
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Washington, D.C. 20240  
[Clarice\\_Julka@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Clarice_Julka@ios.doi.gov)  
(202) 513-0765 - phone  
(202) 208-6045 - direct line  
(202) 219-2374 - fax

On Tue, Oct 10, 2017 at 12:45 PM, Howarth, Robert <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Clarice, could you attach your draft outing letters as well as the incoming requests.

Thanks, Rob

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Julka, Clarice** <[clarice\\_julka@ios.doi.gov](mailto:clarice_julka@ios.doi.gov)>

Date: Fri, Oct 6, 2017 at 12:56 PM

Subject: 24 HOUR HOLD: 17-00371 AND 17-00475

To: Robert Howarth <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)>

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--

Robert Howarth



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Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20240  
202-208-3181  
202-208-4451 (direct)  
202-549-8961 (cell)

**To:** Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]; Newell, Russell[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Rigas, Laura  
**Sent:** 2017-10-11T16:03:41-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd: 24 HOUR HOLD: 17-00371 AND 17-00475  
**Received:** 2017-10-11T16:04:25-04:00  
[00371cl \(Schedules and briefings\).pdf](#)  
[00371cn \(expenses\).pdf](#)  
[00475cf \(Gregory Myers 7.27.17\).pdf](#)  
[Travel FOIA's.pdf](#)

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** **Howarth, Robert** <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Date:** Wed, Oct 11, 2017 at 2:15 PM  
**Subject:** Fwd: 24 HOUR HOLD: 17-00371 AND 17-00475  
**To:** Laura Rigas <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)>

FOIA Ping, Part 2. Please call me.

Rob

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** **Howarth, Robert** <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Date:** Tue, Oct 10, 2017 at 4:10 PM  
**Subject:** Fwd: 24 HOUR HOLD: 17-00371 AND 17-00475  
**To:** Downey Magallanes <[downey\\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov](mailto:downey_magallanes@ios.doi.gov)>

24-hour ping...please review. Attached are the incoming. Please call me with any questions.

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**Date:** Fri, Oct 6, 2017 at 12:56 PM  
**Subject:** 24 HOUR HOLD: 17-00371 AND 17-00475  
**To:** Robert Howarth <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)>

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Clarice Julka  
Department of the Interior

Office of the Secretary, FOIA Office  
1849 C Street, NW, MS-7328  
Washington, D.C. 20240  
[Clarice\\_Julka@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Clarice_Julka@ios.doi.gov)  
(202) 513-0765 - phone  
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Robert Howarth  
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Office of the Executive Secretariat and Regulatory Affairs  
Department of the Interior  
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Robert Howarth  
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Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20240  
202-208-3181  
202-208-4451 (direct)  
202-549-8961 (cell)

**To:** Laura Rigas[laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov]; Russell Newell[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov]; Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Ross, Paul  
**Sent:** 2017-09-14T08:48:11-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd: [FOIA NPS-2017-01307] Records Request for Action – Ruch (PEER) - Mormon Peak  
**Received:** 2017-09-14T08:48:20-04:00  
[NPS-2017-01307 170905 Incoming PEER.pdf](#)

Just an FYI on a FOIA request from PEER regarding cell towers.

**Paul R. Ross**

Senior Public Affairs Specialist  
Office of Communications  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
Office: (202) 501-4633 | Cell: (202) 507-1689

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Barnum, Jeremy <[jeremy\\_barnum@nps.gov](mailto:jeremy_barnum@nps.gov)>  
**Date:** Wed, Sep 13, 2017 at 5:13 PM  
**Subject:** Fwd: [FOIA NPS-2017-01307] Records Request for Action – Ruch (PEER) - Mormon Peak  
**To:** Paul Ross <[paul\\_ross@ios.doi.gov](mailto:paul_ross@ios.doi.gov)>

Just FYI on another cell tower FOIA from PEER, this one is for Death Valley. PEER has made several FOIA requests on cell towers in Yosemite, Yellowstone, and Mt Rainier. Their position is that cell signals impair wilderness character.

Jeremy K. Barnum  
Acting Chief of Public Affairs  
National Park Service  
Office: (202) 513-7262



[Facebook](#) [Twitter](#)  
[Instagram](#) [YouTube](#)

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** PWR FOIA, NPS <[nps\\_pwr\\_foia@nps.gov](mailto:nps_pwr_foia@nps.gov)>  
**Date:** Wed, Sep 13, 2017 at 8:22 AM  
**Subject:** [FOIA NPS-2017-01307] Records Request for Action – Ruch (PEER) - Mormon Peak  
**To:** "Abigail (Abby) Wines" <[abby\\_wines@nps.gov](mailto:abby_wines@nps.gov)>  
**Cc:** Craig Dalby <[craig\\_dalby@nps.gov](mailto:craig_dalby@nps.gov)>, NPS DEVA Superintendent <[deva\\_superintendent@nps.gov](mailto:deva_superintendent@nps.gov)>, Andrew Munoz <[andrew\\_munoz@nps.gov](mailto:andrew_munoz@nps.gov)>

IN REPLY REFER TO:  
9.C. (PWR-PI)  
NPS-2017-01307

September 13, 2017

Memorandum

To: FOIA Officer, Death Valley National Park

Through: Superintendent, Death Valley National Park

From: Chief, Public Information Program, Pacific West Region

Subj: Records Request for Action - Ruch (PEER)

This office is returning for your action the enclosed FOIA request forwarded from the Park on September 13, 2017. The Department of the Interior FOIA tracking number NPS-2017-01307 has been assigned to this request. Please cite this tracking number in all correspondence regarding this request.

We have placed this request into the **Complex** processing track. Under DOI FOIA regulations, this track is for requests requiring twenty-one to sixty workdays for the NPS to conduct its records search and review and respond to the requester. Within each track, requests are usually processed on a first-in, first-out basis. We have marked it as **perfected as of September 13, 2017**. The determination date is **October 11, 2017** with an estimated processing completion date of **December 8, 2017**. If you are able to further clarify or reduce the scope of the requester, please notify us immediately so we can amend the perfected date.

This requester is not on the DOI delinquent requester list. We have classified the requester in the "Other" user category. The requester has requested a fee waiver. Please consider his rationale according to [43 C.F.R. §§ 2.48](#) when considering this request. If you believe that his fee waiver request should be denied, SOL review (per DOI policy) and regional office review are required, and the response letter is sent from the Regional Director.

We **have not** acknowledged this request. If you believe it will take more than 10 workdays to process this request, please forward without delay an acknowledgement letter to the requester from your office.

You should begin referring records that require solicitor review with your proposed redactions and draft response letter to the region no more than **12 workdays** from the perfected date.

Under the Federal Records Act, government employees are prohibited from using non-official email accounts for official business unless they either send a copy of the official message to their official email account or forward the message to their official email account within 20 days. If employees have responsive records located on non-official email accounts that have not already been copied or forwarded to their official email account, you must: (1) have them forward the messages to their official email account if they are within the 20-day window and provide them to the FOIA Officer as part of their search response; or (2) provide them to the FOIA Officer from their non-official email account as part of their search response.

For guidance, please refer to [43 CFR Part 2](#), DOI FOIA and Privacy Act regulations, the [DOI FOIA Handbook](#), [DOI Response Sample Language](#) and [Pacific West Region Directive PW-40](#).

Please track the time your staff spends processing this request and report back to us the total number of minutes spent searching or reviewing for each category as appropriate.

Clerical (GS 1-7) Records Search Minutes:  
Clerical (GS 1-7) Records Review Minutes:  
Professional (GS 8-12) Records Search Minutes:  
Professional (GS 8-12) Records Review Minutes:  
Managerial (GS 13 and up) Records Search Minutes:  
Managerial (GS 13 and up) Records Review Minutes:

Direct all questions and correspondence to [NPS\\_PWR\\_FOIA@nps.gov](mailto:NPS_PWR_FOIA@nps.gov).

Nancy

**NOTE: This correspondence is tracked, do not change subject information contained in brackets. Send replies to [NPS\\_PWR\\_FOIA@nps.gov](mailto:NPS_PWR_FOIA@nps.gov)**

Nancy Hori  
Andrew S. Muñoz  
National Park Service  
Pacific West Region FOIA Office  
206-220-4249 phone

We are committed to providing **legendary customer service**. Our goal is to make efficient use of our limited resources to provide the public and NPS employees with competent, responsive, timely, and courteous service. Please let us know how we can improve.

On Wed, Sep 13, 2017 at 5:29 AM, Abigail (Abby) Wines <[abby\\_wines@nps.gov](mailto:abby_wines@nps.gov)> wrote:

Nancy and Andrew,  
You'll want to add this into your tracker. And as I start to gather responses I may have questions for you.

-Abby

---

**From:** "Janda, Angela" <[angela\\_janda@nps.gov](mailto:angela_janda@nps.gov)>  
**Subject:** FOIA Request from Peer

**Date:** 12 September 2017 17:32

**To:** "Abigail (Abby) Wines" <[abby\\_wines@nps.gov](mailto:abby_wines@nps.gov)>,Ainsley Holeso  
<[ainsley\\_holeso@nps.gov](mailto:ainsley_holeso@nps.gov)>,Alicia Alvarado <[alicia\\_alvarado@nps.gov](mailto:alicia_alvarado@nps.gov)>,Josh Hoines  
<[josh\\_hoines@nps.gov](mailto:josh_hoines@nps.gov)>,Karen McKinlay-Jones <[karen\\_mckinlay-jones@nps.gov](mailto:karen_mckinlay-jones@nps.gov)>,Linda  
Slater <[linda\\_slater@nps.gov](mailto:linda_slater@nps.gov)>,Mike Reynolds <[mike\\_reynolds@nps.gov](mailto:mike_reynolds@nps.gov)>,Cheryl Chipman  
<[cheryl\\_chipman@nps.gov](mailto:cheryl_chipman@nps.gov)>

--

Angela Janda  
Superintendent's Secretary  
Death Valley National Park  
Phone: 760-786-3243

**To:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** DuBray, Daniel  
**Sent:** 2017-11-21T13:50:57-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd: a question about BLM's FOIA practices  
**Received:** 2017-11-21T13:51:46-05:00

FYI. d

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Eilperin, Juliet** <[Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com](mailto:Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com)>  
Date: Tue, Nov 21, 2017 at 12:49 PM  
Subject: a question about BLM's FOIA practices  
To: "[ddubray@blm.gov](mailto:ddubray@blm.gov)" <[ddubray@blm.gov](mailto:ddubray@blm.gov)>, "[press@blm.gov](mailto:press@blm.gov)" <[press@blm.gov](mailto:press@blm.gov)>

Dear Dan, and the rest of the press team,

My colleague and I are considering writing a piece on how FOIA practices have changed under the new administration. I know that FOIA requests go to the head of the BLM's press office, and my understanding is that when Mike Nedd was serving as acting director, he asked whether he could personally review FOIA requests that mentioned him by name. Can you confirm that is the case, and is it accurate to say that this change in procedure did not happen? In addition, were there any other FOIA approval practices that have changed at BLM, and have the number of FOIA requests increased since Jan. 20, compared to past years?

Thanks, Juliet

Juliet Eilperin

Senior National Affairs Correspondent

Washington Post

[Juliet.eilperin@washpost.com](mailto:Juliet.eilperin@washpost.com)

(O) 202-334-7774

(C) (b) (6)

@eilperin

--

Dan DuBray



Acting Assistant Director - Communications (WO-600)  
Director's Office (Room 5645)  
Bureau of Land Management  
Department of the Interior  
Washington, DC 20240  
Office: (202) 208-5207  
Twitter: @DuBray

**To:** Magallanes, Downey[downey\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov]; David Bernhardt[dwbernhardt@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Swift, Heather  
**Sent:** 2017-12-15T17:26:47-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd: a question about David Bernhardt attending weekly meetings in the six months leading up to his confirmation  
**Received:** 2017-12-15T17:27:34-05:00

FYI

-

Dear Heather,

Thanks so much. That's why I checked before running anything. It struck me as odd that he would have done that, given that he's well versed in all the department's legal and ethics policies.

Best, Juliet

---

**From:** Heather Swift [mailto:[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)]

**Sent:** Friday, December 15, 2017 5:08 PM

**To:** Eilperin, Juliet <[Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com](mailto:Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com)>

**Cc:** [interior\\_press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:interior_press@ios.doi.gov)

**Subject:** Re: a question about David Bernhardt attending weekly meetings in the six months leading up to his confirmation

Juliet that's totally false. David attended none of the meetings before he was sworn in. It's a glitch in google calendars that once somebody is added to a recurring meeting it adds them for all occurrences.

Heather Swift

Press Secretary

Department of the Interior

On Dec 15, 2017, at 4:28 PM, Eilperin, Juliet <[Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com](mailto:Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com)> wrote:

Dear Press Team,

According to Downey Magallanes' schedule, which was recently released through

a FOIA, David Bernhardt started attending the weekly acting assistant secretaries meeting starting Feb. 6. In his May 1, 2017 letter to the DOI ethics office, Mr. Bernhardt wrote, "Upon confirmation, I will withdraw from the partnership of Brownstein Hyatt Farber and Schreck, LLP, and all related entities." Given those two facts, I was hoping to check a couple of things.

1. Is it accurate that Mr. Bernhardt attended weekly meetings at Interior with other political appointees even though he was still employed by his law and lobbying firm?
2. How did he handle any issues that might have come up in those meetings, given the potential conflicts of interests that might have arisen?

Thanks so much, and I am reachable at all of the ways below. I want to give you time to respond, so let me know what you think would be doable, in terms of answering this.

Juliet

Juliet Eilperin

Senior National Affairs Correspondent

Washington Post

[Juliet.eilperin@washpost.com](mailto:Juliet.eilperin@washpost.com)

(O) 202-334-7774

(C) (b) (6)

@eilperin

**To:** downey\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov[downey\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov];  
dwbernhardt@ios.doi.gov[dwbernhardt@ios.doi.gov];  
russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Heather Swift  
**Sent:** 2017-12-15T16:54:07-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd: a question about David Bernhardt attending weekly meetings in the six months leading up to his confirmation  
**Received:** 2017-12-15T16:54:13-05:00

Heather Swift  
Press Secretary  
Department of the Interior

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Eilperin, Juliet" <[Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com](mailto:Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com)>  
**Date:** December 15, 2017 at 4:28:30 PM EST  
**To:** "[interior\\_press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:interior_press@ios.doi.gov)" <[interior\\_press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:interior_press@ios.doi.gov)>, "Swift, Heather" <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Subject:** **a question about David Bernhardt attending weekly meetings in the six months leading up to his confirmation**

Dear Press Team,

According to Downey Magallanes' schedule, which was recently released through a FOIA, David Bernhardt started attending the weekly acting assistant secretaries meeting starting Feb. 6. In his May 1, 2017 letter to the DOI ethics office, Mr. Bernhardt wrote, "Upon confirmation, I will withdraw from the partnership of Brownstein Hyatt Farber and Schreck, LLP, and all related entities." Given those two facts, I was hoping to check a couple of things.

1. Is it accurate that Mr. Bernhardt attended weekly meetings at Interior with other political appointees even though he was still employed by his law and lobbying firm?
2. How did he handle any issues that might have come up in those meetings, given the potential conflicts of interests that might have arisen?

Thanks so much, and I am reachable at all of the ways below. I want to give you time to respond, so let me know what you think would be doable, in terms of answering this.  
Juliet

Juliet Eilperin  
Senior National Affairs Correspondent  
Washington Post  
[Juliet.eilperin@washpost.com](mailto:Juliet.eilperin@washpost.com)  
(O) 202-334-7774

(C)(b) (6) [REDACTED]  
@eilperin

**To:** Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]; Jeremy Barnum[jeremy\_barnum@nps.gov]  
**Cc:** Paul Ross[Paul\_Ross@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** April Slayton  
**Sent:** 2017-12-11T17:23:49-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd: a question about how NPS is handling FOIA procedures  
**Received:** 2017-12-11T17:23:58-05:00  
[ATT00001.htm](#)  
[dillonfoia1.pdf](#)

Hi Heather - can Jeremy and I connect with you tomorrow on these questions? Thanks!

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Eilperin, Juliet" <[Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com](mailto:Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com)>  
**Date:** December 11, 2017 at 5:15:02 PM EST  
**To:** "[April\\_Slayton@nps.gov](mailto:April_Slayton@nps.gov)" <[April\\_Slayton@nps.gov](mailto:April_Slayton@nps.gov)>, "Grandoni, Dino" <[Dino.Grandoni@washpost.com](mailto:Dino.Grandoni@washpost.com)>, "Swift, Heather" <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Subject:** a question about how NPS is handling FOIA procedures

Dear April,

A week and a half ago I had asked Heather and her colleagues if the Secretary's office had instituted new procedures for processing FOIA requests, since requests regarding the monuments review process were being referred to the Secretary's office. (I've pasted an example of a response from a regional NPS officer below, and I have attached an example of a recent letter along the same lines, from a BLM official). She said this was false, and that you could speak to your FOIA procedures, so I thought I would check with you and loop in my colleague Dino Grandoni, who is also interested in this topic.

I am cc'ing Heather on this both to make sure she's aware of this, and to see if there's a way to get a department-wide figure for the rise in the number of total FOIA requests the department is receiving, since I am sure it is considerable.

Thanks, and a response tomorrow is fine—I know that it is late in the day.

Best, Juliet

Juliet Eilperin  
Senior National Affairs Correspondent  
Washington Post  
[Juliet.eilperin@washpost.com](mailto:Juliet.eilperin@washpost.com)  
(O) 202-334-7774  
(C) (b) (6)  
@eilperin  
**Subject:** EFTS\_18\_00005 -- KAWW

Dear Ms. Dillon,

We have been notified that all requests relating to the monument designation review issue will be processed by the Department of the Interior Office of the Secretary (OS) FOIA Office. Accordingly, we have transferred all the remaining, responsive records for your request to their office. They will issue a final response to your request once they have completed the processing those records. In the meantime you can contact their FOIA Officer at:

Clarice Julka; OS FOIA Officer  
MS-7328, MIB  
[1849 C Street, NW\[maps.google.com\]](https://maps.google.com)  
[Washington, DC 20240\[maps.google.com\]](https://maps.google.com)  
Phone: (202) 513-0765  
Fax: (202) 219-2374  
E-Mail: [osfoia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov)

Sincerely,

Ellen Carlson

Ellen Carlson  
Legislative Affairs Specialist

National Park Service  
Northeast Region  
15 State Street  
Boston, MA 02109

Ph. 617.223.5048  
Cell. 617.834.2626

---

**From:** Heather Swift [[mailto:heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)]

**Sent:** Friday, December 01, 2017 6:41 PM

**To:** Eilperin, Juliet <[Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com](mailto:Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com)>

**Cc:** [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

**Subject:** Re: checking in on a few fronts

1. We have no new announcements on national monuments.
2. Checked back with exec sec/solicitors. Expect something soon. It got lost in the holiday hustle.
3. That is wholly false. NPS can speak to their FOIA procedures.
4. The Department has no new announcements on national monuments.

Heather Swift  
Press Secretary

Department of the Interior

On Dec 1, 2017, at 1:10 PM, Eilperin, Juliet <[Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com](mailto:Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com)> wrote:

Dear All,

I had a few questions for different stories, so I thought it's easiest if I put them in one email.

1. First, I just published this piece about how USDA confirmed that the department did not specifically recommend any Forest Land be removed from Bears Ears or four other national monuments under review, and I just wanted to see if DOI wanted to comment:  
<http://wapo.st/2Br1U3Q>
2. Second, I'd love to get those stats, if it's possible, on how the rate of FOIA requests has increased since January, compared to the year before.
3. Three, it appears that regional NPS FOIA officers are now saying that all FOIA requests are being processed through the Office of the Secretary, which is a change from just a couple of weeks ago. Is it possible to get a comment on why this policy shift occurred?
4. Four, if you have any further comments on the draft documents on Bears Ears and Grand Staircase-Escalante, now that other outlets have reported on this, let me know.

I am best reached via email or cell, (b) (6).

Thanks, Juliet

Juliet Eilperin  
Senior National Affairs Correspondent  
Washington Post  
[Juliet.eilperin@washpost.com](mailto:Juliet.eilperin@washpost.com)  
(O) 202-334-7774  
(C) (b) (6)  
@eilperin



**To:** John Tahsuda[john.tahsuda@bia.gov]; Charles Addington[Charles.Addington@bia.gov]; Jason Thompson[Jason.Thompson@bia.gov]; Bryan Rice[Bryan.Rice@bia.gov]  
**Cc:** Shepard, Eric[eric.shepard@sol.doi.gov]; Bryan Hudson[bryan.hudson@sol.doi.gov]; Laura Rigas[laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov]; Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]; Quimby, Frank J[Frank\_Quimby@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Darling, Nedra  
**Sent:** 2017-11-01T09:46:15-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd: ABC News Responses: Missing Person HeavyRunner  
**Received:** 2017-11-01T09:46:26-04:00

Hi -

Here is the the ABC News story about the Missing Woman at Blackfeet. The reporter is going to do a follow up story and I will start working with him soon.

Thank you for all your work with me on getting the responses together and providing the information that we could for the public. I believe it turned out much better than I thought it initially would and that is do to our team work which is much appreciated!

These is a hard one and I hope we get a break soon and bring Ashley home.  
Take care,  
Nedra

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Simon, Evan N. <[Evan.N.Simon@abc.com](mailto:Evan.N.Simon@abc.com)>  
**Date:** Wed, Nov 1, 2017 at 9:09 AM  
**Subject:** RE: ABC News Responses: Missing Person HeavyRunner  
**To:** Nedra Darling <[nedra\\_darling@ios.doi.gov](mailto:nedra_darling@ios.doi.gov)>

Hi Nedra,

Our story went live this morning. See the link below:

<http://abcnews.go.com/US/familys-desperate-search-missing-young-woman-highlights-questions/story?id=50737963>

For your awareness, I have put in a FOIA request for the case file related to Ashley's disappearance. Looking forward to our communications going forward as I continue reporting on this story.

Best,

Evan

---

**From:** Simon, Evan N.

**Sent:** Monday, October 30, 2017 8:47 AM

**To:** Nedra Darling <[nedra\\_darling@ios.doi.gov](mailto:nedra_darling@ios.doi.gov)>

**Subject:** Re: ABC News Responses: Missing Person HeavyRunner

Thank you so much for your responses, Nedra. I'll be sure to share the story with you as soon as its published.

**To:** Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]; Russell Newell[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Laura Rigas  
**Sent:** 2017-09-11T15:28:30-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd: as discussed  
**Received:** 2017-09-11T15:29:43-04:00  
[ATT00001.htm](#)  
[Agency Reform Plan - Secretary's Message 9.8.17 in review.docx](#)

Russ -- thanks for your help editing this. Its the cover memo they want to send to OMB with the re-org plan. Needs work.  
Appreciate your help syncing it with our messaging.

Laura Keehner Rigas  
Communications Director  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 897-7022 cell  
@Interior

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Howarth, Robert" <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)>  
**To:** Laura Rigas <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Subject:** as discussed

Surname request, thanks

--

Robert Howarth  
Deputy Director for Correspondence and FOIA Management  
Office of the Executive Secretariat and Regulatory Affairs  
Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20240  
202-208-3181  
202-208-4451 (direct)  
202-549-8961 (cell)

**To:** Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Laura Rigas  
**Sent:** 2017-08-22T17:32:31-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd: ASAP Review  
**Received:** 2017-08-22T17:32:41-04:00  
[ATT00001.htm](#)  
[REVISED RZ Executive Summary.docx](#)

Laura Keehner Rigas  
Communications Director  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 897-7022 cell  
@Interior

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Howarth, Robert" <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Date:** August 22, 2017 at 3:44:30 PM EDT  
**To:** "Jorjani, Daniel" <[daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov](mailto:daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov)>, Katharine Macgregor  
<[kate\\_macgregor@ios.doi.gov](mailto:kate_macgregor@ios.doi.gov)>, Kathleen Benedetto  
<[kathleen\\_benedetto@ios.doi.gov](mailto:kathleen_benedetto@ios.doi.gov)>, Laura Rigas <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Cc:** Downey Magallanes <[downey\\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov](mailto:downey_magallanes@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Subject:** ASAP Review

Hello all. Downey asked me to send the attached Secretary Executive Summary to you for your immediate review. **Please respond to this email by 6:00 pm tonight.**

Thanks for your help!

Rob

--

Robert Howarth  
Deputy Director for Correspondence and FOIA Management  
Office of the Executive Secretariat and Regulatory Affairs  
Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20240  
202-208-3181  
202-208-4451 (direct)  
202-549-8961 (cell)

**To:** Daniel Jorjani[daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov]; Joshua Campbell[joshua.campbell@sol.doi.gov]  
**From:** Swift, Heather  
**Sent:** 2017-12-08T11:34:38-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd: BuzzFeed News: Status of August review of \$100K+ grants  
**Received:** 2017-12-08T11:35:28-05:00

Question: is it accurate to say we have nothing new to announce on the ongoing review, and direct them to my previous statement -> "The Trump Administration is dedicated to responsibly using taxpayer dollars and that includes the billions of dollars in grants that are doled out every year by the Department of the Interior. In order to ensure the Department is using tax dollars in a way that advances the Department's mission and fulfills the roles mandated by Congress, in April the Department began reviewing grants and cooperative partnerships that exceed \$100,000. As such, the \$1,000,000 funding agreement was put on hold."

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

As I mentioned on your office voicemail, I'm a science reporter at BuzzFeed News. I'm writing to enquire about the Aug. 18 request by Glenda Owens at OSMRE, asking the NAS to halt a study, S16AC20034, citing an agency review of grants of more than \$100,000 in funding.

Can you update us on the status of this review? Has it been started, completed, or is underway in any fashion? Is there anyone at the agency who can explain how the review is structured? We wonder a) how many review sessions have been held b) who is doing the reviewing and c) how many studies are included in this review.

We recently received a FOIA response on this topic from your agency, and are planning a story on the review request. It would be great to get any update on its status and the questions I mentioned (or whatever else you think noteworthy on the topic) before the end of the work week.

Thanks for any help,

Dan Vergano  
BuzzFeed News  
[202 629 4563](tel:2026294563)

**Dan Vergano** | Science Desk (DC) | [202 629 4563](tel:2026294563)  
**BuzzFeed News**  
[1630 Connecticut Ave. 7th Floor, Washington DC 20009](https://www.buzzfeednews.com/)  
Public PGP Key -- <http://tinyurl.com/glfk7xo>

Send secure tips -- [contact.buzzfeed.com](https://www.buzzfeed.com/contact)

**To:** John Bockmier[john\_bockmier@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Swift, Heather  
**Sent:** 2017-11-29T13:44:38-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd: BuzzFeed News: Status of August review of \$100K+ grants  
**Received:** 2017-11-29T13:45:25-05:00

To answer your question from this morning :)

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Dan Vergano <[dan.vergano@buzzfeed.com](mailto:dan.vergano@buzzfeed.com)>  
**Date:** Wed, Nov 29, 2017 at 1:40 PM  
**Subject:** BuzzFeed News: Status of August review of \$100K+ grants  
**To:** [Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov)

Ms. Swift

OSMRE communications indicated you were the contact for this query. I'm a science reporter at BuzzFeed News. I'm writing to enquire about the Aug. 18 request by Glenda Owens at OSMRE, asking the NAS to halt a study, S16AC20034, citing an agency review of grants of more than \$100,000 in funding.

Can DOI update us on the status of this review? Has it been started, completed, or is underway in any fashion? Is there anyone at the agency who can explain how the review is structured? We wonder a) how many review sessions have been held b) who is doing the reviewing and c) how many studies are included in this review.

We recently received a FOIA response on this topic from your agency, and are planning a story on the review request. It would be great to get any update on its status and the questions I mentioned (or whatever else you think noteworthy on the topic) before the end of the work week.

Thanks for any help,

Dan Vergano  
BuzzFeed News  
[202 629 4563](tel:2026294563)

**Dan Vergano** | Science Desk (DC) | [202 629 4563](tel:2026294563)

**BuzzFeed News**

[1630 Connecticut Ave. 7th Floor, Washington DC 20009](http://www.buzzfeed.com)

Public PGP Key -- <http://tinyurl.com/glfk7xo>

Send secure tips -- [contact.buzzfeed.com](mailto:tips@buzzfeed.com)



**To:** jeremy\_barnum@nps.gov[jeremy\_barnum@nps.gov]  
**From:** Heather Swift  
**Sent:** 2017-12-01T13:16:48-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd: checking in on a few fronts  
**Received:** 2017-12-01T13:16:55-05:00

This isn't true is it?

Heather Swift  
Press Secretary  
Department of the Interior

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Eilperin, Juliet" <[Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com](mailto:Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com)>  
**Date:** December 1, 2017 at 1:10:31 PM EST  
**To:** "[Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)" <[Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)>, "Swift, Heather" <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Subject:** **checking in on a few fronts**

Three, it appears that regional NPS FOIA officers are now saying that all FOIA requests are being processed through the Office of the Secretary, which is a change from just a couple of weeks ago. Is it possible to get a comment on why this policy shift occurred?

**To:** Magallanes, Downey[downey\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov]; Daniel Jorjani[daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov]; Russell Newell[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Swift, Heather  
**Sent:** 2017-09-05T18:01:03-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd: Comment on enviro comments  
**Received:** 2017-09-05T18:01:50-04:00

Dan/Downey -- Thoughts?

-

Hi Team,

Writing a short story for tomorrow's Climatewire on comments being submitted by a half-dozen national environmental groups. In their letters, they claim Interior is not being transparent in its regulatory reform efforts. In part they highlight a lack of response to FOIA requests.

“The department has failed to respond to at least 50 FOIA requests—submitted in recent months by The Wilderness Society, Defenders of Wildlife, National Parks Conservation Association, Western Environmental Law Center, Natural Resources Defense Council, and other groups—for information on these reforms, which are mostly taking place behind closed doors.”

Wanted to reach out and see if you'd like to respond or provide a comment. Apologies for the late request – this just landed in my inbox.

Thanks,

Brittany

Brittany Patterson

Reporter, E&E News' *Climatewire*

[bpatterson@eenews.net](mailto:bpatterson@eenews.net)

O: 202-446-0417

C: 530-218-1266

[@amusedbrit](#)

---

**E&E NEWS**

122 C Street NW 7th Floor Washington, DC 20001

<https://www.eenews.net> | [@EENewsUpdates](#)

Energywire, Climatewire, Greenwire, E&E Daily, E&E News PM

**To:** Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Lowery, Steve  
**Sent:** 2017-09-19T13:26:12-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd: Doc for Exec Sec - Deadline 7:00PM  
**Received:** 2017-09-19T13:27:16-04:00  
[Letter\\_JocelynCahill\\_v1.docx](#)

Hi Heather!

I'm working with Rob on Joceylin Cahill's letter. We have the sign off from Ethics. It's with Mr. Jorjani for review now.

I'm putting the letter in the proper format and require a mailing or physical address. Do you have that information for Ms. Cahill?

Thanks so much for you help!

Steve

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** **Howarth, Robert** <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Date:** Tue, Sep 19, 2017 at 10:28 AM  
**Subject:** Re: Doc for Exec Sec - Deadline 7:00PM  
**To:** "Loftin, Melinda" <[melinda.loftin@sol.doi.gov](mailto:melinda.loftin@sol.doi.gov)>, Edward McDonnell <[edward.mcdonnell@sol.doi.gov](mailto:edward.mcdonnell@sol.doi.gov)>  
**Cc:** Steve Lowery <[steve\\_lowery@ios.doi.gov](mailto:steve_lowery@ios.doi.gov)>

Good morning. Have a rush. Please respond to this email (tight timeline) with your surname and that the proposed letter can be placed on Secretary letterhead and that he can sign as the Secretary of the Interior.

Either Steve or I will be handling this package.

Thanks, Rob

Rob

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** **Swift, Heather** <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Date:** Tue, Sep 19, 2017 at 10:17 AM  
**Subject:** Doc for Exec Sec - Deadline 7:00PM  
**To:** "Howarth, Robert" <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)>

**Rob** - Attached is a draft letter from the Secretary to a gal in Montana who used to work for him in the Congressional office. She is leading efforts to rebuild a one room school in her community.

The letter commends her for being active and taking a leadership role in the community.

Scott and Jorjani reviewed and asked me to send it to you for exec sec process to get put on letterhead.

Apologies for short deadline but it's due today at 7:00PM for her town meeting. I tried to get this going last Thursday but just got the draft OKed.

Do you think we can get this out the door today for her? I'm happy to lend Alex to do the running around.

Thank you!

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

--

Robert Howarth  
Deputy Director for Correspondence and FOIA Management  
Office of the Executive Secretariat and Regulatory Affairs  
Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20240  
202-208-3181  
202-208-4451 (direct)  
202-549-8961 (cell)

--

Steve F. Lowery  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
Writer/Editor for Indian Affairs  
Office of the Executive Secretariat  
(202) 208-5291

**To:** jeremy\_barnum@nps.gov[jeremy\_barnum@nps.gov]  
**From:** Heather Swift  
**Sent:** 2017-07-20T20:07:08-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd: Dog leash issue  
**Received:** 2017-07-20T20:07:17-04:00  
[ATT00001.htm](#)  
[zinke\\_cfdg \(1\).pdf](#)

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

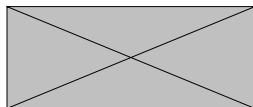
**From:** Mark Prado <[mprado@marinij.com](mailto:mprado@marinij.com)>  
**Date:** July 20, 2017 at 8:01:48 PM EDT  
**To:** <[Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Subject:** Dog leash issue

Hello,

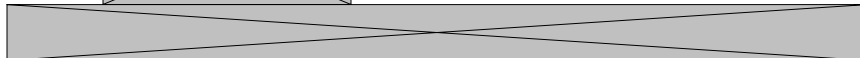
I'm looking for a DOI comment on the dog walking issue out here at the Golden Gate National Recreation Area. I'm writing about an online petition <http://www.thepetitionsite.com/takeaction/728/478/486/> as well as an the attached letter to the secretary. What are the DOI's thoughts? My deadline is Friday. Thanks for your help, Mark

--

**Mark Prado** Reporter | Marin Independent Journal  
[mprado@marinij.com](mailto:mprado@marinij.com)  
415.382.7347 Direct | (b) (6) Mobile



[bayareanewsgroup.com](http://bayareanewsgroup.com)  
Over 5 million engaged readers weekly



**To:** Alex Hinson[alex\_hinson@ios.doi.gov]; Caroline Boulton[caroline\_boulton@ios.doi.gov]; Daniel Jorjani[daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov]; David Bernhardt[dwbernhardt@ios.doi.gov]; Douglas Domenech[douglas\_domenech@ios.doi.gov]; Eli Nachmany[eli\_nachmany@ios.doi.gov]; Getto, Leila[leila\_getto@ios.doi.gov]; James Cason[james\_cason@ios.doi.gov]; Laura Rigas[laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov]; Magallanes, Downey[downey\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov]; Mashburn, Lori[lori\_mashburn@ios.doi.gov]; Micah Chambers[micah\_chambers@ios.doi.gov]; Natalie Davis[natalie\_davis@ios.doi.gov]; Russell Newell[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov]; Scott Hommel[scott\_hommel@ios.doi.gov]; Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]; Thiele, Aaron[aaron\_thiele@ios.doi.gov]; Willens, Todd[todd\_willens@ios.doi.gov]

**From:** Mashburn, Lori

**Sent:** 2017-11-06T12:29:11-05:00

**Importance:** Normal

**Subject:** Fwd: DOI Cabinet Affairs report 11/06

**Received:** 2017-11-06T12:30:13-05:00

[DAILY UPDATE FOR CABINET AFFAIRS 11-06-17.docx](#)

## **DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR DAILY UPDATE FOR CABINET AFFAIRS – 11/06/17**

Lori Mashburn, White House Liaison

Natalie Davis, Special Assistant to the Secretary

### **STATUS OF THE SECRETARY**

THIS WEEK: The Secretary is in DC

- 11/6 – Secretary returns to DC
  - o Remarks to the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
- 11/7 – DOI Veteran’s Day Ceremony
  - o Lunch with Gary Cohn, NEC
  - o Meeting with Miccosukee Tribe
  - o Meeting with Secure America’s Future Energy (SAFE)
- 11/8 – Remarks at National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Annual Board of Directors Meeting
  - o Meeting with Mosaic
  - o Participate in the reading of names at the Vietnam Memorial
- 11/9 – Meeting with PG&E CEO Geisha Williams
  - o Meeting with Tom Spoehr, The Heritage Foundation
- 11/10 – Mounted Tour of Manassas National Battlefield
- 11/11 – Participate in Veterans Day Observance at World War II Memorial

- o Participate in 64<sup>th</sup> Annual Veterans Day National Ceremony at Arlington National Ceremony
- o Remarks at Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund

### **STATUS OF THE DEPUTY SECRETARY**

TODAY: Meeting with John Sandy, COS for Senator Risch  
 · Attend National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Reception

### **WH COMMS REPORT** (submitted Thursday, 11/2)

#### **Press Inquiries:**

- Small inquiries and logistical inquiries.
- **\*Multiple Inquiries on EITI\*** Questions are being directed to the State Department.
- **\*Multiple Inquiries\*** Six environmental groups sued Interior and the White House Council on Environmental Quality over FOIA requests the groups said Interior and the WH CEQ aren't honoring.—**RESPONSE--** Please contact DOJ for any questions regarding litigation.
- **New York Times:** (Lisa Friedman)—**REQUEST—** Does Interior have any comment on the National Climate Assessment Volume 1 out today? The main finding is that humans have been the dominant cause of atmospheric and ocean warming over the past half century, and that climate change poses an urgent risk to U.S. communities and economic sectors. Does Mr. Zinke accept the finding scientists from 13 government agencies including DOI? —**RESPONSE—** Please direct questions about the report to NOAA.
- **E&E News:** (Kellie Lunney)—**REQUEST--** Wanted to see if Interior had any comment on Senate and House Democrats Oppose Delay of BLM Waste Prevention Rule, Urge Zinke to Save Taxpayer Money and Protect Public Health . Can take something up until about 3:45—**RESPONSE—**“As part of President Trump's America-First Energy Strategy and executive order, the Department has reviewed and flagged the Waste Prevention rule as one we will suspend, revise or rescind given its significant regulatory burden that encumbers American energy production, economic growth and job creation. The rule is expected to have real and harmful impacts on onshore energy development and could impact state and local jobs and revenue. Small independent oil and gas producers in states like North Dakota, Colorado and New Mexico, which account for a substantial portion of our nation's energy wealth, could be hit the hardest.”

#### **Top Stories**

- **THE HILL:** [Greens sue Trump for national monument documents](#)
- **E&E News:** [Groups sue for public records on Zinke review](#)
- **Helena Independent Record (MT):** [Politicians tarnish Montana's image](#)



## **Top Issues and Accomplishments**

- Interior continues to support all Hurricane Harvey, Hurricane Irma, Hurricane Maria, and Hurricane Nate efforts. All bureaus are executing their emergency plans and assisting in Hurricane relief.
- Monday, DOI will announce a new FACA board related to public/private partnerships.
- Secretary Zinke is out on personal leave at his home in Montana. The Secretary will return on Monday.

## **AGENCY MEDIA (UPDATED)**

### **WEEK AHEAD November 1 thru November 9, 2017 (submitted 11/2)**

Announcements/Releases/Events

### **U.S. Department of the Interior**

*Secretarial-level Announcements/Events/Interviews*

- Soon we plan to announce 2 new FACA boards, one related to sportsmen and one related to public/private partnerships.
- **November 6:** the “Stream Protection Rule” (related to OSMRE) will hit the Federal Register. Comms materials are forthcoming.
- **November TBD: National NPS Release:** Major announcement regarding Arlington Memorial Bridge. Pending WH review.
- **November/December TBD:** Proclamation signing in Utah regarding the Antiquities Act. Pending WH review.

### **National Park Service**

- **November 6 (tent.):** (EMBARGOED UNTIL PUBLICLY ANNOUNCED) Golden Gate National Recreation Area is expected to release a Request for Qualifications for a competitive business opportunity to establish a waterfront community center at the Fort Baker Historic Boat Shop and Marina as an affordable recreational and gathering place open to the public.

### **U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service**

- **November TBD: National FWS Release:** FWS will announce the 2017-18 Refuge-Specific Hunting and Sport Fishing Regulations. Final rule will open various national wildlife refuges to hunting and/or sport fishing for the first time (new hunts) and expand hunting and fishing opportunities at others.
- **November TBD: FWS News Bulletin:** FWS will issue a news bulletin regarding a NEPA Environmental Assessment related to lethal take permits for cormorants for aquaculture facilities.

## **Bureau of Land Management**

- **November 2 – 16:** Scoping meetings for the Notice of Intent to amend Greater sage-grouse land use plans will be held in the following Western cities and towns:
  - o Nov. 2: Twin Falls, ID
  - o Nov. 6: Cheyenne, WY; Idaho Falls, ID
  - o Nov. 7: Marsing, ID; Reno, NV; Burns, OR
  - o Nov. 8: Pinedale, WY; Elko, NV; Billings, MT
  - o Nov. 9: Ely, NV, Craig, CO
  - o Nov. 14: Vernal, UT
  - o Nov. 15: Cedar City, UT
  - o Nov. 16: Salt Lake City, UT
- **November 6:** BLM Acting Director Michael D. Nedd will attend the National Mining Association/BLM Sustainable Development Awards in Washington, D.C. The awards are presented by the BLM to hardrock mining companies that demonstrate high quality examples of responsible mineral resource development. The awards recognize work in the areas of sustainable development, environmental health, social responsibility, and economic security
- **November 7:** BLM will participate in the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Board of Directors meeting in Washington, D.C. The meeting provides an opportunity for the BLM to interact with NFWF's Board and staff and to learn more about the conservation programs supported with the annual \$3 million appropriation.
- **November 8:** The Department of Justice will host an evidence review of the Erskine Fire at the BLM-CA Bakersfield Office. Attorneys from DOJ, DOI, California Department of Fish and Wildlife and private parties will attend.
- **November 9:** BLM-WY Buffalo Field Office will hold an annual public meeting to discuss development and monitoring of performance standards in regard to its Fortification Creek management.
- **November TBD: Local BLM Release:** BLM-CO expects to issue a decision about whether to grant a royalty rate reduction for the West Elk Mine. The BLM proposes to approve Mountain Coal Company, LLC's application for a royalty rate reduction from 8 percent to 5 percent for 10.3 million tons of coal in the West Elk Mine in southwest Colorado's North Fork Valley.
- **November TBD: Local BLM Release:** BLM-CO expects to issue a decision whether to modify GCC Energy's King II Mine in Montezuma County in southwest CO by 951 acres to allow GCC to access an estimated 4.66 million tons of recoverable Federal coal reserves for an additional 6.5 years of mining.

## **U.S. Geological Survey**

- **November 8: USGS Media Advisory:** USGS will issue a media advisory announcing that groundwater and geology will be surveyed using low-flying helicopter in Southern California to collect and record geophysical measurements for scientific research purposes as part of the California Oil, Gas, & Groundwater Program.
- **November TBD: Local USGS Release:** USGS will issue a release regarding a new USGS study that tracks millions of tons of rocks, gravel and silt carried by the Sauk River and its tributaries to the Skagit River.

#### **Bureau of Ocean Energy Management:**

- **November TBD: BOEM Note to Stakeholders:** BOEM issue a note to stakeholders regarding Q3 FY17 study reports posting to ESPIS.
- **November TBD: BOEM Note to Stakeholders:** BOEM will issue a note to stakeholders on the path forward for future renewable energy leasing offshore the Atlantic Coast Request for Feedback (RFF).
- **November TBD: GOMR Sale 249 closeout NTS.**

#### **Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement**

- **November 8 (tent.): National NSEE Release:** BSEE will issue a press release regarding an update on Gulf of Mexico Region well permits being approved.

#### **CONGRESSIONAL UPDATE (Updated)**

**UPCOMING SCIA HEARING:** The Senate Committee on Indian Affairs is hosting a legislative hearing on S. 1400 (Sen. Heinrich), the Safeguarding Tribal Objects of Patrimony Act of 2017 and S. 465 (Sen. Rounds), the Independent Outside Audit of the Indian Health Service Act of 2017. The Department will only be providing testimony on S.1400. Witness is pending.

**Timing:** Wednesday, November 8, 2017

**Contact:** Amanda Kaster, Policy Adviser, Congressional Affairs

**UPCOMING SCIA ROUNDTABLE:** The Senate Committee on Indian Affairs is holding a roundtable entitled "Confronting the Crisis: the Opioid Epidemic in Indian Country." DOI intends to send Charlie Addington, Deputy Associate Director, Office of Justice Services to participate.

**Timing:** Thursday, November 9, 2017

**Contact:** Amanda Kaster, Policy Adviser, Congressional Affairs

## **POLITICAL APPOINTEE UPDATE**

DOI politicals on board = 63

3 PAS confirmed as of 9/18.

6 nominated awaiting confirmation:

- Pending Senate floor vote: Susan Combs, Assistant Secretary Policy Management and Budget.
- Pending Senate floor vote: Brenda Berman, Commissioner, Bureau of Reclamation.
- Pending Senate floor vote: Joe Balash, Assistant Secretary, Land and Minerals
- Pending Senate floor vote: Ryan Douglas Nelson, Solicitor
- Pending Hearing: Tara Sweeney, Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs
- Pending Hearing: Steve Gardner, Director, Office of Surface Mining and Reclamation

Overall:

- Schedule C: 34 of 68 onboard; 2 starting; 6 in process
- NC-SES: 26 of 44 onboard; 3 starting; 1 in process
- PAS: 3 Confirmed; 5 Announced; 14 of 17 Submitted to PPO

## **SECRETARY SPEAKING INVITATIONS (updates in bold)**

Accepted:

11/6 - National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Board of Directors Reception (DC)

11/7 - DOI Veterans Day Ceremony (DC)

11/8 – National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Board of Directors Meeting (DC)

11/9 – National WWI Memorial at Pershing Park (DC)

11/10 – Tour of Manassas National Battlefield Park

11/11 - Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund (DC)

11/11 - 64th Annual Veterans Day National Ceremony (DC)

11/ 11 - Veterans Day Observance at World War II Memorial (DC)

11/21 – US Marine Corps Unveiling of the Iraq and Afghanistan engraving at Iwo Jima

Open (date TBC)- Americans for Tax Reform (DC)

Open (date TBC)- Detroit Economic Club

Event Postponed by organizers due to fire - 10/21 – DEPA BOD Meeting (CA)

Outstanding Invitations in Process:

1/11/18 – EEI CEO and Board Conference (Phoenix, AZ)

Declining

11/8 – WY Governor Annual Business Forum (Cheyenne, WY)

11/7-9 National Ranger Council Annual Meeting (Gettysburg, PA)

11/9 - America First Energy Conference hosted by Heartland Institute (Houston, TX)

11/9 - Bass Fishing Hall of Fame Induction Dinner at the Wonders of Wildlife (Springfield, MO)

11/13 Montana Farm Bureau Federation Annual Meeting (Billings, MT)

11/14 – George Rogers Clark National Historical Park Quarter Launch (Vincennes, Indiana)

**11/15 Motorcycle Industry Council Symposium (Carson, CA)**

11/29 Association of California Water Agencies 2017 Fall Conference and Exhibition (Anaheim, CA)

**12/1-2 – Western Governors Association Annual Meeting (Phoenix, AZ)**

12/5-7 America Outdoors Association's 29th Annual Marketing and Management Conference for Outfitters and Adventure Resorts (Reno, NV)

12/6 American Exploration and Mining Association Annual Meeting (Reno, NV)

12/8 - Valley Industry and Commerce Association Annual Meeting (Los Angeles, CA)

**12/11 – Veterans Day Commemoration (Prussia, PA)**

**12/14 – Leadership Missoula (Missoula, Montana)**

**12/8 – DOI Toastmasters event (Washington, DC)**

**12/9 – Western Caucus Foundation Winter Policy Meeting (Las Vegas, NV)**

**2/9-10 Associated General Contractors Western Chapter Annual Meeting (La Jolla, CA)**

**2/23/18 – West Slope Colorado Oil and Gas Association Annual Meeting (Grand Junction, CO)**

**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT** (new)

**Port Aransas Barge Oil Spill**

The U.S. Coast Guard, the Texas General Land Office, and Bouchard Transportation representatives have completed the response to the oil discharged from a barge three miles off the jetties of Port Aransas, Texas. Beach assessment and cleanup teams have finished removing the oil that impacted the shorelines of Mustang Island, North Padre Island, and Corpus Christ Bay Islands. The Natural Resource Trustees and other stakeholders have certified that the shoreline is back to pre-event conditions. Agencies will continue to regularly monitor the area even though they are returning to normal operations. DOI assets in the area have not reported any shortfalls or long-term impacts from this incident. Barring a significant change, additional reporting is not expected.

### **OUTSIDE MEDIA OF INTEREST** (new)

#### **Trump Move Stirs Debate Over Utah Monuments.**

[Reuters](#) (11/3, Cullen) reports that President Trump's announcement last week that he intends to reduce the size of two national monuments in Utah has "stoked local divisions over land use, with all sides anticipating a protracted battle over the move." According to the article, "on one side, Native American groups and environmentalists expressed anger and are ready to sue the U.S. government." Meanwhile, "on the other, conservative-leaning residents welcomed the decision, seeing it as a reversal of government overreach and a boost for traditional industries like drilling, mining and grazing."

#### **Interior Review Omits Oil And Gas Rule.**

[E&E Publishing](#) (11/3, King) reports that last week, the Interior Department "unveiled its review of all department actions with the potential to burden domestic energy activity." The report "touched on the department's ongoing examination of rules introduced by the Bureau of Land Management, Fish and Wildlife Service, and National Park Service under the previous administration to guide oversight of oil and gas operations on sites the agencies manage." However, "beyond a mention of Secretary Ryan Zinke's secretarial order listing four Interior rules pinpointed in President Trump's March 28 'energy independence' directive, the NPS rule doesn't even appear in the document." Interior spokeswoman Heather Swift explained, "The NPS rule was under review. No action has been taken or identified for it, which is why it is not in the report."

#### **Trump's Exit From Anti-Corruption Pact Helps Big Oil Hide How Much It Pays In US Taxes.**

The [Huffington Post](#) (11/4, Kaufman) reported that the Interior Department announced Thursday the United States would withdraw immediately from the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI), "a move critics said could help oil companies keep hidden how much they pay in U.S. taxes." [NPR](#) (11/3, Chappell) reported that the EITI is designed to collect and share government and corporation data showing "how much money is being paid and received for oil, gas, mining and

renewable energy operations on public lands.” Since the summer, the US has cited multiple factors as obstacles to remaining in the group, including the Trade Secrets Act and tax reporting laws. However, “a State Department spokesperson says the U.S. will remain as one of 17 ‘supporting countries’ of the initiative.”

### **On Eve Of Asia Trip, Trump Pays Visit To Pearl Harbor.**

The [AP](#) (11/4, Lemire) reports President Trump “paid a solemn visit to the memorial at Pearl Harbor,” in what the AP called “a sacred journey” in preparation for his trip to Asia, “shadowed by fears of another international conflict.” Before going, the President said, “We are going to visit very shortly, Pearl Harbor, which I’ve read about, spoken about, heard about, studied, but I haven’t seen. And that is going to be very exciting for me.” At the memorial, the President and Mrs. Trump gave a wreath which was placed “near a wall of names of the fallen.” Afterwards, they “tossed white flower petals into the waters above the battleship’s sunken hull.” The President, added the AP, “appeared moved by the visit.” Meanwhile, he “said not a word about North Korea or its nuclear ambitions on Friday.”

### **Proposed Entrance Fee Hikes At National Parks Could Backfire And Push Visitors To Annual Passes.**

The [Denver Post](#) (11/3, Blevins) reports that “a plan to bump entrance fees at the 17 busiest national parks to \$70 from \$30 during the peak summer months will help parks struggling to cover the tab for long-delayed upkeep as crowds continue to surge.” However, “if that peak-season pricing plan is deployed next summer, the anticipated spike in demand for \$80 America the Beautiful annual passes – a mere \$10 extra for a year’s access to about 2,000 federal recreation sites – could hinder the National Park Service’s quest to balance cost-sharing between visitors and the federal government.” Emily Douce, the director of budget and appropriations for the National Parks Conservation Association, said, “It is unknown how these proposed increases will impact the parks and the people who visit them, but it does seem reasonable that people will see the bargain in buying the America the Beautiful annual pass for entry into all our national parks and other federal lands. Our concern is how much analysis did the administration undergo to understand the implications of these fee increases.”

### **Activists Behind A Rejected 45-foot Statue Of A Naked Woman In D.C.**

Have A New Plan: A 26-foot Digital Artwork Of A Naked Woman. The [Washington Post](#) (11/3, Stein) reports that the activists who “wanted to place a 45-foot-tall statue of a nude woman on prime land on the Mall” now “want to erect a 26-foot-tall scaffold covered on two sides by 26-foot-tall digitized portraits of a nude woman.” The National Park Service “hasn’t finalized the permit for the structure, but Mike Litterst, a spokesman for the agency, said it is in the final stages of issuing it.” Natalie White, a spokeswoman for the “Catharsis on the Mall” festival, “said that after the Park Service rejected the group’s initial permit application, women behind Catharsis decided they still wanted to promote a message of female empowerment.” She “said activists are

making the best of the situation while still fighting to bring the original 45-foot statue to the Mall.”

**FEDERAL REGISTER LISTINGS:**

Sent to the Federal Register on November 3rd.

REG0007482 NPS NIC - U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Chugach National Forest, Anchorage, Alaska N2856 -- This is a Notice pursuant to the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) of the completion of an inventory of human remains under the control of the Chugach National Forest, Anchorage, AK. The human remains were removed from Crafton Island, AK. Notice 11/03/2017

REG0007526 NPS Notice of Intent to Repatriate Cultural Items: U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Washington, DC N2870 -- This is a Notice pursuant to the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA), 25 U.S.C. 3005, of the intent to repatriate cultural items under the control of the U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Washington, DC, that meet the definition of unassociated funerary objects under 25 U.S.C. 3001. Notice 11/03/2017

REG0007581 NPS NIC - Grand Rapids Public Museum, Grand Rapids, MI N2871 -- This is a Notice pursuant to the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA), 25 U.S.C. 3003, of the completion of an inventory of human remains under the control of the Grand Rapids Public Museum, Grand Rapids, MI. The human remains were removed from Barry County, MO, and an unknown location in the State of Arkansas. Notice 11/03/2017

REG0007584 NPS NIR - Grand Rapids Public Museum, Grand Rapids, MI N2872 -- This is a Notice pursuant to the American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA), 25, U.S.C. 3005, of the intent to repatriate cultural items under the control of the Osage Nation (previously listed as the Osage Tribe) that meet the definition of objects of cultural patrimony under 25 U.S.C. 3001. Notice 11/03/2017

REG0007589 NPS National Register of Historic Places, October 21, 2017 The NPS is soliciting comments on the significance of properties nominated before October 21, 2017, for listing in the National Register of Historic Places or related actions. Notice 11/03/2017

REG0007590 NPS National Register of Historic Places, October 28, 2017 The NPS is soliciting comments on the significance of properties nominated before October 28, 2017, for listing in the National Register of Historic Places or related actions. Notice 11/03/2017

Lori K. Mashburn  
White House Liaison  
Department of the Interior  
202.208.1694



**To:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]; Baptiste, Thomas[thomas\_baptiste@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Dixon, Shandria  
**Sent:** 2017-09-05T10:39:38-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd: Email Search Request - OS-2017-00393  
**Received:** 2017-09-05T10:39:58-04:00  
[17-00393qa.pdf](#)  
[FOIA Control Form \(4.8.16\).pdf](#)

Please let me know if you have anything for this FOIA request. Thanks

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** OS, OS FOIA <[osfoia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Date:** Tue, Sep 5, 2017 at 10:19 AM  
**Subject:** Fwd: Email Search Request - OS-2017-00393  
**To:** Shandria Dixon <[shandria\\_dixon@ios.doi.gov](mailto:shandria_dixon@ios.doi.gov)>,

Good morning,

Following up on this request. The requester is asking about it's status. Please provide an update.

Thanks!

Leah

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** OS, OS FOIA <[osfoia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Date:** Fri, Apr 28, 2017 at 7:12 AM  
**Subject:** Email Search Request - OS-2017-00393  
**To:** Gisella Ojeda-dodds <[gisella\\_ojeda-dodds@ios.doi.gov](mailto:gisella_ojeda-dodds@ios.doi.gov)>, Caroline Boulton <[caroline\\_boulton@ios.doi.gov](mailto:caroline_boulton@ios.doi.gov)>, Gareth Rees <[gareth\\_rees@ios.doi.gov](mailto:gareth_rees@ios.doi.gov)>, Natalie Davis <[natalie\\_davis@ios.doi.gov](mailto:natalie_davis@ios.doi.gov)>, Nancy Guiden <[nancy\\_guiden@ios.doi.gov](mailto:nancy_guiden@ios.doi.gov)>, Shandria Dixon <[shandria\\_dixon@ios.doi.gov](mailto:shandria_dixon@ios.doi.gov)>, Jeffrey Hunter <[jeffrey\\_hunter@ios.doi.gov](mailto:jeffrey_hunter@ios.doi.gov)>

Hi everyone,

These 2 requests (OS-2017-00393 and OS-2017-00394) are similar but they are being treated as separate requests due to the subject matter being a little different. Let me know if you have any questions.

If you think that anyone else would have records who are not listed in this email, please let me know and I will send this request out to their office to search as well. Please let me know if you have any questions.

OS FOIA has received a Freedom of Information Act request for which we believe your Office may have responsive materials. Please use the below chart, attached copy of the request, and attached control form to inform your search.

**If available, please provide responsive documents to OS FOIA electronically (CD, FOIA DMU Processing Application, email, or thumb drive). Please note that Bison Connect can pull emails electronically with the DMU Processing App's and OS staff can assist with this tool. Please contact OS FOIA if electronic documents are not available.**

**Please track the time required to search for these documents on the attached control form.**

- If you have any questions regarding the specific guidance on copying, reviewing, and submitting documents to the OS FOIA office, please call 202-513-0765.

<b>Action Office:</b> <b>Office of the Secretary</b>	<b>Responsible Program Office:</b> <b>SIO, Dep Sec and OCO</b>
<b>Current Date:</b> <b>4/28/17</b>	<b>Due Date:</b> <b>6/12/17</b>
<b>FOIA Request Control Number:</b> <b>OS-2017-00393</b>	<b>OS FOIA Contact (MIB 7328):</b> <b>Cindy Sweeney</b>
<b>Requester's Name:</b> <b>Ryan Koronowski</b>	<b>Amount Requester is Willing to Pay:</b> <b>Requested fee waiver</b>

Thanks,  
Cindy

.

--

Department of the Interior  
Office of the Secretary, FOIA Office  
1849 C Street, NW, MS-7328  
Washington, D.C. 20240  
[os\\_foia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:os_foia@ios.doi.gov)  
(202) 513-0765 - phone  
(202) 219-2374 - fax

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[os\\_foia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:os_foia@ios.doi.gov)  
(202) 513-0765 - phone  
(202) 219-2374 - fax

--

**Shandria Dixon**

Office of the Secretary

Office of Communications

202.208.3752

**To:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]; Thomas Baptiste[tbaptiste@blm.gov]  
**From:** Dixon, Shandria  
**Sent:** 2017-09-05T10:42:03-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd: Email Search Request - OS-2017-00394  
**Received:** 2017-09-05T10:42:14-04:00  
[17-00394qa.pdf](#)  
[FOIA Control Form \(4.8.16\).pdf](#)

This is the associated FOIA request to the email I just sent. Please advise on your search findings. Thanks

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **OS, OS FOIA** <[osfoia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov)>  
Date: Tue, Sep 5, 2017 at 10:30 AM  
Subject: Fwd: Email Search Request - OS-2017-00394  
To: Gisella Ojeda-dodds <[gisella\\_ojeda-dodds@ios.doi.gov](mailto:gisella_ojeda-dodds@ios.doi.gov)>, Gareth Rees <[gareth\\_rees@ios.doi.gov](mailto:gareth_rees@ios.doi.gov)>, Shandria Dixon <[shandria\\_dixon@ios.doi.gov](mailto:shandria_dixon@ios.doi.gov)>, Jeffrey Hunter <[jeffrey\\_hunter@ios.doi.gov](mailto:jeffrey_hunter@ios.doi.gov)>

Good morning,

Following up on this request, please provide an update. the requester is asking for a status update.

Thanks!

Leah

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **OS, OS FOIA** <[osfoia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov)>  
Date: Fri, Apr 28, 2017 at 7:12 AM  
Subject: Email Search Request - OS-2017-00394  
To: Gisella Ojeda-dodds <[gisella\\_ojeda-dodds@ios.doi.gov](mailto:gisella_ojeda-dodds@ios.doi.gov)>, Caroline Boulton <[caroline\\_boulton@ios.doi.gov](mailto:caroline_boulton@ios.doi.gov)>, Gareth Rees <[gareth\\_rees@ios.doi.gov](mailto:gareth_rees@ios.doi.gov)>, Natalie Davis <[natalie\\_davis@ios.doi.gov](mailto:natalie_davis@ios.doi.gov)>, Nancy Guiden <[nancy\\_guiden@ios.doi.gov](mailto:nancy_guiden@ios.doi.gov)>, Shandria Dixon <[shandria\\_dixon@ios.doi.gov](mailto:shandria_dixon@ios.doi.gov)>, Jeffrey Hunter <[jeffrey\\_hunter@ios.doi.gov](mailto:jeffrey_hunter@ios.doi.gov)>

Hi everyone,

These 2 requests (OS-2017-00393 and OS-2017-00394) are similar but they are being treated as separate requests due to the subject matter being a little different. Let me know if you have any questions.

If you think that anyone else would have records who are not listed in this email, please let me know and I will send this request out to their office to search as well. Please let me know if you have any questions.

OS FOIA has received a Freedom of Information Act request for which we believe your Office may have responsive materials. Please use the below chart, attached copy of the request, and attached control form to inform your search.

- If available, please provide responsive documents to OS FOIA electronically (CD, FOIA DMU)

Processing Application, email, or thumb drive). Please note that Bison Connect can pull emails electronically with the DMU Processing App's and OS staff can assist with this tool. Please contact OS FOIA if electronic documents are not available.

- Please track the time required to search for these documents on the attached control form.
- If you have any questions regarding the specific guidance on copying, reviewing, and submitting documents to the OS FOIA office, please call 202-513-0765.

<b>Action Office:</b> <b>Office of the Secretary</b>	<b>Responsible Program Office:</b> <b>SIO, Dep Sec and OCO</b>
<b>Current Date:</b> <b>4/28/17</b>	<b>Due Date:</b> <b>6/12/17</b>
<b>FOIA Request Control Number:</b> <b>OS-2017-00394</b>	<b>OS FOIA Contact (MIB 7328):</b> <b>Cindy Sweeney</b>
<b>Requester's Name:</b> <b>Ryan Koronowski</b>	<b>Amount Requester is Willing to Pay:</b> <b>Requested fee waiver</b>

Thanks,  
Cindy

.

--

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Office of the Secretary, FOIA Office  
1849 C Street, NW, MS-7328  
Washington, D.C. 20240  
[os\\_foia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:os_foia@ios.doi.gov)  
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(202) 219-2374 - fax

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Washington, D.C. 20240  
[os\\_foia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:os_foia@ios.doi.gov)  
(202) 513-0765 - phone  
(202) 219-2374 - fax

--

**Shandria Dixon**  
Office of the Secretary  
Office of Communications  
202.208.3752

**To:** Lori Mashburn[lori\_mashburn@ios.doi.gov]; Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** leah\_fairman@ios.doi.gov  
**Sent:** 2017-07-20T08:36:42-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd: Email Search Request - OS-2017-00545  
**Received:** 2017-07-20T08:37:20-04:00  
[17-00545qa \(1\).pdf](#)  
[FOIA Control Form \(4.8.16\) \(8\) \(1\).pdf](#)

Good morning,

Doing a follow up on this, please let us know the status. This was due back in early June and the requester has sent a notice of violation of deadline and might escalate, so we are trying to get this closed.

Thank you.

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** OS, OS FOIA <[osfoia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Date:** Tue, May 16, 2017 at 11:55 AM  
**Subject:** Email Search Request - OS-2017-00545  
**To:** Lori Mashburn <[lori\\_mashburn@ios.doi.gov](mailto:lori_mashburn@ios.doi.gov)>

Hi Lori,

[If you think that anyone else would have records who are not listed in this email, please let me know.](#)

OS FOIA has received a Freedom of Information Act request for which we believe your Office may have responsive materials. Please use the below chart, attached copy of the request, and attached control form to inform your search.

**If available, please provide responsive documents to OS FOIA electronically (CD, FOIA DMU Processing Application, email, or thumb drive). Please note that Bison Connect can pull emails electronically with the DMU Processing App's and OS staff can assist with this tool. Please contact OS FOIA if electronic documents are not available.**

- Please track the time required to search for these documents on the attached control form.**
- If you have any questions regarding the specific guidance on copying, reviewing, and submitting documents to the OS FOIA office, please call 202-513-0765.**

<b>Action Office:</b>  Office of the Secretary	<b>Responsible Program Office:</b>  SIO
<b>Current Date:</b>  5/16/17	<b>Due Date:</b>  5/30/17

<b>FOIA Request Control Number:</b>  <b>OS-2017-00545</b>	<b>OS FOIA Contact (MIB 7328):</b>  <b>Cindy Sweeney</b>
<b>Requester's Name:</b>  <b>Margaret Townsend</b>	<b>Amount Requester is Willing to Pay:</b>  <b>Requested fee waiver</b>

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Office of the Secretary, FOIA Office  
1849 C Street, NW, MS-7328  
Washington, D.C. 20240  
[os\\_foia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:os_foia@ios.doi.gov)  
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[os\\_foia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:os_foia@ios.doi.gov)  
(202) 513-0765 - phone  
(202) 219-2374 - fax



**To:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Dixon, Shandria  
**Sent:** 2017-08-24T09:03:28-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd: Email Search Request - OS-2017-00932  
**Received:** 2017-08-24T09:03:36-04:00  
[FOIA Control Form \(4.8.16\) \(9\).pdf](#)  
[17-00932qa.pdf](#)

The FOIA office is requesting your search findings.  
Please advise- thanks

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **OS, OS FOIA** <[osfoia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov)>  
Date: Wed, Aug 23, 2017 at 1:23 PM  
Subject: Fwd: Email Search Request - OS-2017-00932  
To: Shandria Dixon <[shandria\\_dixon@ios.doi.gov](mailto:shandria_dixon@ios.doi.gov)>

Hi Shandria, please see below reminder. Please let us know if Heather Swift's responsive records would be the same as those she previously submitted for OS-2017-00929.

#### Search Request Follow-up

RE: OS-2017-00932

Just a friendly reminder and follow-up concerning the search request for responsive documents/records from Heather Swift. Please let us know your ETA.

Appreciate your assistance.  
Thank you,  
Karmen

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **OS, OS FOIA** <[osfoia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov)>  
Date: Thu, Jul 27, 2017 at 9:49 AM  
Subject: Email Search Request - OS-2017-00932  
To: "Swift, Heather" <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)>

OS FOIA has received a Freedom of Information Act request for which we believe your Office may have responsive materials. Please use the below chart, attached copy of the FOIA request, and attached FOIA Control Form to inform us of your search efforts.

- **If available, please provide responsive documents to OS FOIA electronically (CD, FOIA DMU Processing Application, email, or thumb drive). Please note that Bison Connect can pull emails electronically with the DMU Processing App's and**

OS staff can assist with this tool. Please contact OS FOIA if electronic documents are not available.

- Please track the time required to search for these documents on the attached control form.
- If you have any questions regarding the specific guidance on copying, reviewing, and submitting documents to the OS FOIA office, please call 202-513-0765.

<b>Please reply/send all items to <a href="mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov">osfoia@ios.doi.gov</a> - Except "FOIA/DMU Processing Tool" searches</b> (Please include <a href="mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov">osfoia@ios.doi.gov</a> on all communications/discussions regarding this FOIA request.)	
<b>Action Office:</b> Office of the Secretary	<b>Responsible Program Office:</b> OS/ASFWP
<b>Current Date:</b> 07/27/17	<b>Due Date:</b> 8/10/17
<b>FOIA Request Control Number:</b> OS-2017-00932	<b>OS FOIA Contact (MIB 7328):</b> Cindy Sweeney
<b>Requester's Name:</b> Alexander Romy	<b>Amount Requester Is Willing To Pay:</b> Fee Waiver Requested

Thank you,  
Kashieka

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Office of the Secretary, FOIA Office  
1849 C Street, NW, MS-7328  
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[os\\_foia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:os_foia@ios.doi.gov)  
(202) 513-0765 - phone  
(202) 219-2374 - fax

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(202) 513-0765 - phone  
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--

**Shandria Dixon**  
Office of the Secretary  
Office of Communications  
202.208.3752

**To:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Laura Rigas[laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Dixon, Shandria  
**Sent:** 2017-12-12T11:27:42-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd: Email Search Request OS-2017-00707  
**Received:** 2017-12-12T11:27:50-05:00

Heather,

This is the FOIA that I printed out and gave to you. They really need your correspondence as soon as possible. Thanks

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Myrick, Brett <[brett.myrick@sol.doi.gov](mailto:brett.myrick@sol.doi.gov)>  
**Date:** Tue, Dec 12, 2017 at 10:56 AM  
**Subject:** Re: Email Search Request OS-2017-00707  
**To:** Leah Fairman <[leah\\_fairman@ios.doi.gov](mailto:leah_fairman@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Cc:** Jeffrey Hunter <[jeffrey\\_hunter@ios.doi.gov](mailto:jeffrey_hunter@ios.doi.gov)>, Shandria Dixon <[shandria\\_dixon@ios.doi.gov](mailto:shandria_dixon@ios.doi.gov)>, Russell Roddy <[russell\\_rodny@ios.doi.gov](mailto:russell_rodny@ios.doi.gov)>, Lori Mashburn <[lori\\_mashburn@ios.doi.gov](mailto:lori_mashburn@ios.doi.gov)>

Good Morning-

I'm the attorney in the solicitor's office tasked with litigating this FOIA case, to which you (or Heather Swift) may have responsive documents. This FOIA request specifically asks for your (or Heather Swift's) documents *by your name*. (b) (5)

I know you've got many FOIA requests on your plate - this request is looking for all correspondence you have which specifically references the Secretary's wife, Lola Zinke, through and including May 1, 2017.

Please let and Leah Fairman know as soon as possible whether you have responsive records. We have a hearing on this case in early January where will we need to make a report on the status and results of our search.

Thanks for your help,  
Brett

On Tue, Dec 5, 2017 at 12:15 PM, OS, OS FOIA <[osfoia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Good afternoon,

Following up on this, this request is in litigation and we still need records for the following people for this request. If you have any questions, please feel free to ask Brett Myrick (CC'd here) who is the SOL point of contact for the litigation or myself. I

Lori Mashburn  
Russell Roddy  
Heather Swift

Thank you!

Leah

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **OS, OS FOIA** <[osfoia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov)>

Date: Wed, Nov 15, 2017 at 9:09 AM

Subject: Fwd: Email Search Request OS-2017-00707

To: Jeffrey Hunter <[jeffrey\\_hunter@ios.doi.gov](mailto:jeffrey_hunter@ios.doi.gov)>, Shandria Dixon  
<[shandria\\_dixon@ios.doi.gov](mailto:shandria_dixon@ios.doi.gov)>, Russell Roddy <[russell\\_roddey@ios.doi.gov](mailto:russell_roddey@ios.doi.gov)>, Caroline  
Boulton <[caroline\\_boulton@ios.doi.gov](mailto:caroline_boulton@ios.doi.gov)>, Lori Mashburn <[lori\\_mashburn@ios.doi.gov](mailto:lori_mashburn@ios.doi.gov)>

Good morning,

Following up on this, this request is in litigation and we still need records for the following people for this request:

Lori Mashburn  
Russell Roddy  
Heather Swift  
Caroline Boulton

Thank you.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **OS, OS FOIA** <[osfoia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov)>

Date: Wed, Oct 25, 2017 at 12:21 PM

Subject: Fwd: Email Search Request OS-2017-00707

To: Laura Rigas <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)>, Jeffrey Hunter <[jeffrey\\_hunter@ios.doi.gov](mailto:jeffrey_hunter@ios.doi.gov)>, Shandria Dixon <[shandria\\_dixon@ios.doi.gov](mailto:shandria_dixon@ios.doi.gov)>, Russell Roddy <[russell\\_roddey@ios.doi.gov](mailto:russell_roddey@ios.doi.gov)>, Caroline Boulton <[caroline\\_boulton@ios.doi.gov](mailto:caroline_boulton@ios.doi.gov)>, Lori Mashburn <[lori\\_mashburn@ios.doi.gov](mailto:lori_mashburn@ios.doi.gov)>

Good afternoon,

Following up on this request. Please let us know if you have records, and if so, when you expect to be able to get them to us. this request is now in litigation.

Thanks!

Leah

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **OS, OS FOIA** <[osfoia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov)>

Date: Thu, Oct 5, 2017 at 5:19 PM

Subject: Re: Email Search Request OS-2017-00707

To: Laura Rigas <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)>, Jeffrey Hunter <[jeffrey\\_hunter@ios.doi.gov](mailto:jeffrey_hunter@ios.doi.gov)>, Shandria Dixon <[shandria\\_dixon@ios.doi.gov](mailto:shandria_dixon@ios.doi.gov)>, Russell Roddy <[russell\\_rodny@ios.doi.gov](mailto:russell_rodny@ios.doi.gov)>, Caroline Boulton <[caroline\\_boulton@ios.doi.gov](mailto:caroline_boulton@ios.doi.gov)>, Lori Mashburn <[lori\\_mashburn@ios.doi.gov](mailto:lori_mashburn@ios.doi.gov)>

**Search Request Follow-up**

RE: OS-2017-00707

Just a friendly reminder regarding the search request for responsive documents/records. Please let us know your ETA.

Appreciate your help.  
Thank you,  
Karmen

On Fri, Sep 22, 2017 at 10:29 AM, OS, OS FOIA <[osfoia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

**Search Request Follow-up**

RE: OS-2017-00707

Just a friendly reminder regarding the search request for responsive documents/records. Please let us know your ETA.

Appreciate your help.  
Thank you,  
Karmen

On Tue, Aug 8, 2017 at 4:03 PM, OS, OS FOIA <[osfoia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

**Search Request Follow-up**

RE: OS-2017-00707

Just a friendly reminder regarding the search request for responsive documents/records. Please let us know your ETA.

Appreciate your help.  
Thank you,  
Karmen

On Thu, Jul 13, 2017 at 7:47 AM, OS, OS FOIA <[osfoia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Your assistance is appreciated. Could you please let us know of any additional persons to add as a contact for search docs?

Thank you,

Kashieka

OS FOIA has received a Freedom of Information Act request for which we believe your Office may have responsive materials. Please use the below chart, attached copy of the FOIA request, and attached FOIA Control Form to inform us of your search efforts.

- **If available, please provide responsive documents to OS FOIA electronically (CD, FOIA DMU Processing Application, email, or thumb drive). Please note that Bison Connect can pull emails electronically with the DMU Processing App's and OS staff can assist with this tool. Please contact OS FOIA if electronic documents are not available.**
- **Please track the time required to search for these documents on the attached control form.**
- **If you have any questions regarding the specific guidance on copying, reviewing, and submitting documents to the OS FOIA office, please call 202-513-0765.**

<p><b>Please reply/send all items to <a href="mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov">osfoia@ios.doi.gov</a> - Except "FOIA/DMU Processing Tool" searches</b>          (Please include <a href="mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov">osfoia@ios.doi.gov</a> on all communications/discussions regarding this FOIA request.)</p>	
<p><b>Action Office:</b> Office of the Secretary</p>	<p><b>Responsible Program Office:</b> OCO/SIO</p>
<p><b>Current Date:</b> 7/13/2017</p>	<p><b>Due Date:</b> 7/27/17</p>
<p><b>FOIA Request Control Number:</b> OS-2017-00707</p>	<p><b>OS FOIA Contact (MIB 7328):</b> Cindy Sweeney</p>
<p><b>Requester's Name:</b> Chris Saeger</p>	<p><b>Amount Requester Is Willing To Pay:</b> Fee Waiver Requested</p>

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 Department of the Interior  
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[1849 C Street, NW](http://1849CStreetNW.com), MS-7328  
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[os\\_foia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:os_foia@ios.doi.gov)  
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[os\\_foia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:os_foia@ios.doi.gov)  
(202) 513-0765 - phone  
(202) 219-2374 - fax



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Brett H. Myrick  
Department of the Interior - Office of the Solicitor  
Attorney-Adviser - Division of General Law  
202-208-3820  
Room 6444

--

**Shandria Dixon**  
Office of the Secretary  
Office of Communications  
202.208.3752  
202.208.6416

**To:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Dixon, Shandria  
**Sent:** 2017-11-15T09:11:57-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd: Email Search Request OS-2017-00707  
**Received:** 2017-11-15T09:12:04-05:00

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** OS, OS FOIA <[osfoia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Date:** Wed, Nov 15, 2017 at 9:09 AM  
**Subject:** Fwd: Email Search Request OS-2017-00707  
**To:** Jeffrey Hunter <[jeffrey\\_hunter@ios.doi.gov](mailto:jeffrey_hunter@ios.doi.gov)>, Shandria Dixon <[shandria\\_dixon@ios.doi.gov](mailto:shandria_dixon@ios.doi.gov)>, Russell Roddy <[russell\\_rodny@ios.doi.gov](mailto:russell_rodny@ios.doi.gov)>, Caroline Boulton <[caroline\\_boulton@ios.doi.gov](mailto:caroline_boulton@ios.doi.gov)>, Lori Mashburn <[lori\\_mashburn@ios.doi.gov](mailto:lori_mashburn@ios.doi.gov)>

Good morning,  
Following up on this, this request is in litigation and we still need records for the following people for this request:

Lori Mashburn  
Russell Roddy  
Heather Swift  
Caroline Boulton

Thank you.

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** OS, OS FOIA <[osfoia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Date:** Wed, Oct 25, 2017 at 12:21 PM  
**Subject:** Fwd: Email Search Request OS-2017-00707  
**To:** Laura Rigas <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)>, Jeffrey Hunter <[jeffrey\\_hunter@ios.doi.gov](mailto:jeffrey_hunter@ios.doi.gov)>, Shandria Dixon <[shandria\\_dixon@ios.doi.gov](mailto:shandria_dixon@ios.doi.gov)>, Russell Roddy <[russell\\_rodny@ios.doi.gov](mailto:russell_rodny@ios.doi.gov)>, Caroline Boulton <[caroline\\_boulton@ios.doi.gov](mailto:caroline_boulton@ios.doi.gov)>, Lori Mashburn <[lori\\_mashburn@ios.doi.gov](mailto:lori_mashburn@ios.doi.gov)>

Good afternoon,  
Following up on this request. Please let us know if you have records, and if so, when you expect to be able to get them to us. this request is now in litigation.

Thanks!

Leah

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** OS, OS FOIA <[osfoia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Date:** Thu, Oct 5, 2017 at 5:19 PM  
**Subject:** Re: Email Search Request OS-2017-00707  
**To:** Laura Rigas <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)>, Jeffrey Hunter <[jeffrey\\_hunter@ios.doi.gov](mailto:jeffrey_hunter@ios.doi.gov)>,

Shandria Dixon <[shandria\\_dixon@ios.doi.gov](mailto:shandria_dixon@ios.doi.gov)>, Russell Roddy <[russell\\_rodny@ios.doi.gov](mailto:russell_rodny@ios.doi.gov)>, Caroline Boulton <[caroline\\_boulton@ios.doi.gov](mailto:caroline_boulton@ios.doi.gov)>, Lori Mashburn <[lori\\_mashburn@ios.doi.gov](mailto:lori_mashburn@ios.doi.gov)>

**Search Request Follow-up**

RE: OS-2017-00707

Just a friendly reminder regarding the search request for responsive documents/records. Please let us know your ETA.

Appreciate your help.  
Thank you,  
Karmen

On Fri, Sep 22, 2017 at 10:29 AM, OS, OS FOIA <[osfoia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

**Search Request Follow-up**

RE: OS-2017-00707

Just a friendly reminder regarding the search request for responsive documents/records. Please let us know your ETA.

Appreciate your help.  
Thank you,  
Karmen

On Tue, Aug 8, 2017 at 4:03 PM, OS, OS FOIA <[osfoia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

**Search Request Follow-up**

RE: OS-2017-00707

Just a friendly reminder regarding the search request for responsive documents/records. Please let us know your ETA.

Appreciate your help.  
Thank you,  
Karmen

On Thu, Jul 13, 2017 at 7:47 AM, OS, OS FOIA <[osfoia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Your assistance is appreciated. Could you please let us know of any additional persons to add as a contact for search docs?

Thank you,

Kashieka

OS FOIA has received a Freedom of Information Act request for which we believe your Office may have responsive materials. Please use the below chart, attached copy of the FOIA request, and attached FOIA Control Form to inform us of your search efforts.

- **If available, please provide responsive documents to OS FOIA electronically (CD, FOIA DMU Processing Application, email, or thumb drive). Please note that Bison Connect**

can pull emails electronically with the DMU Processing App's and OS staff can assist with this tool. Please contact OS FOIA if electronic documents are not available.

- Please track the time required to search for these documents on the attached control form.
- If you have any questions regarding the specific guidance on copying, reviewing, and submitting documents to the OS FOIA office, please call 202-513-0765.

<b>Please reply/send all items to <a href="mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov">osfoia@ios.doi.gov</a> - Except "FOIA/DMU Processing Tool" searches</b> (Please include <a href="mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov">osfoia@ios.doi.gov</a> on all communications/discussions regarding this FOIA request.)	
<b>Action Office:</b> Office of the Secretary	<b>Responsible Program Office:</b> OCO/SIO
<b>Current Date:</b> 7/13/2017	<b>Due Date:</b> 7/27/17
<b>FOIA Request Control Number:</b> OS-2017-00707	<b>OS FOIA Contact (MIB 7328):</b> Cindy Sweeney
<b>Requester's Name:</b> Chris Saeger	<b>Amount Requester Is Willing To Pay:</b> Fee Waiver Requested

--  
Department of the Interior  
Office of the Secretary, FOIA Office  
[1849 C Street, NW](http://1849CStreetNW.com), MS-7328  
Washington, D.C. 20240  
[os\\_foia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:os_foia@ios.doi.gov)  
(202) 513-0765 - phone  
(202) 219-2374 - fax

--  
Department of the Interior  
Office of the Secretary, FOIA Office  
[1849 C Street, NW](http://1849CStreetNW.com), MS-7328  
Washington, D.C. 20240  
[os\\_foia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:os_foia@ios.doi.gov)  
(202) 513-0765 - phone  
(202) 219-2374 - fax

--

Department of the Interior  
Office of the Secretary, FOIA Office  
[1849 C Street, NW](#), MS-7328  
Washington, D.C. 20240  
[os\\_foia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:os_foia@ios.doi.gov)  
(202) 513-0765 - phone  
(202) 219-2374 - fax

--

Department of the Interior  
Office of the Secretary, FOIA Office  
[1849 C Street, NW](#), MS-7328  
Washington, D.C. 20240  
[os\\_foia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:os_foia@ios.doi.gov)  
(202) 513-0765 - phone  
(202) 219-2374 - fax

--

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[1849 C Street, NW](#), MS-7328  
Washington, D.C. 20240  
[os\\_foia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:os_foia@ios.doi.gov)  
(202) 513-0765 - phone  
(202) 219-2374 - fax

--

Department of the Interior  
Office of the Secretary, FOIA Office  
[1849 C Street, NW](#), MS-7328  
Washington, D.C. 20240  
[os\\_foia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:os_foia@ios.doi.gov)  
(202) 513-0765 - phone  
(202) 219-2374 - fax

--

**Shandria Dixon**  
Office of the Secretary  
Office of Communications  
202.208.3752  
202.208.6416

**To:** Laura Rigas[laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov]; Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Caroline Boulton[caroline\_boulton@ios.doi.gov]; Gisella Ojeda-dodds[gisella\_ojeda-dodds@ios.doi.gov]; Elinor Renner[elinor\_renner@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** karmen\_young@ios.doi.gov  
**Sent:** 2017-08-01T16:53:20-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd: Email Search Request: OS-2017-00963  
**Received:** 2017-08-01T16:53:59-04:00  
[17-00963qa.pdf](#)  
[FOIA Control Form \(updated\) BLANK.pdf](#)

Hello Heather/Laura:

OS FOIA was advised to add you to this search request for responsive documents.

Please find attached are the FOIA Request and Control Form. Now adding: [OCO](#).

Please adhere to the same due date specified in the chart: [8/15/2017](#)

Processing Track: \*["Complex" Processing Track](#)

Copied are the original recipients of the initial search request email.

Thank you/Karmen

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **OS, OS FOIA** <[osfoia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov)>

Date: Tue, Aug 1, 2017 at 2:05 PM

Subject: Email Search Request: OS-2017-00963

To: Caroline Boulton <[caroline\\_boulton@ios.doi.gov](mailto:caroline_boulton@ios.doi.gov)>, Gisella Ojeda-dodds <[gisella\\_ojeda-dodds@ios.doi.gov](mailto:gisella_ojeda-dodds@ios.doi.gov)>, Elinor Renner <[elinor\\_renner@ios.doi.gov](mailto:elinor_renner@ios.doi.gov)>

All,

[This request has been placed in the "complex" processing track.](#)

OS FOIA has received a Freedom of Information Act request for which we believe your Office may have responsive materials. Please use the below chart, attached copy of the FOIA request, and attached FOIA Control Form to inform us of your search efforts.

- If available, please provide responsive documents to OS FOIA electronically (CD, FOIA DMU Processing Application, email, or thumb drive). Please note that Bison Connect can pull emails electronically with the DMU Processing App's and OS staff can assist with this tool. Please contact OS FOIA if electronic documents are not available.**
- Please track the time required to search for these documents on the attached control form.**

□ If you have any questions regarding the specific guidance on copying, reviewing, and submitting documents to the OS FOIA office, please call 202-513-0765.

<b>Please reply/send all items to <a href="mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov">osfoia@ios.doi.gov</a> - Except "FOIA/DMU Processing Tool" searches</b> (Please include <a href="mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov">osfoia@ios.doi.gov</a> on all communications/discussions regarding this FOIA request.)	
<b>Action Office:</b> Office of the Secretary	<b>Responsible Program Office:</b> SIO/OCO
<b>Current Date:</b> 08/01/17	<b>Due Date:</b> 08/15/17
<b>FOIA Request Control Number:</b> OS-2017-00963	<b>OS FOIA Contact (MIB 7328):</b> Cindy Sweeney
<b>Requester's Name:</b> Chris Saeger	<b>Amount Requester Is Willing To Pay:</b> Fee Waiver Requested

Thank you,  
Karmen

--  
Department of the Interior  
Office of the Secretary, FOIA Office  
1849 C Street, NW, MS-7328  
Washington, D.C. 20240  
[os\\_foia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:os_foia@ios.doi.gov)  
(202) 513-0765 - phone  
(202) 219-2374 - fax

--

Department of the Interior  
Office of the Secretary, FOIA Office  
1849 C Street, NW, MS-7328  
Washington, D.C. 20240  
[os\\_foia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:os_foia@ios.doi.gov)  
(202) 513-0765 - phone  
(202) 219-2374 - fax



**To:** Russell Newell[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov]; Eli Nachmany[eli\_nachmany@ios.doi.gov];  
heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov];  
alex\_hinson@ios.doi.gov[alex\_hinson@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Laura Rigas  
**Sent:** 2017-10-23T08:09:37-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd: Energy  
**Received:** 2017-10-23T08:09:44-04:00  
[ATT00001.htm](#)  
[TO BE SUBMITTED CLEAN for Publication.docx](#)  
[TO BE SUBMITTED FINAL CLEAN Potential Initiatives.docx](#)  
[ATT00002.htm](#)

Let's discuss at our staff meeting this morning.

Laura Keehner Rigas  
Communications Director  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 897-7022 cell  
@Interior

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Howarth, Robert" <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Date:** October 23, 2017 at 8:06:30 AM EDT  
**To:** Laura Rigas <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Subject:** Energy

--

Robert Howarth  
Deputy Director for Correspondence and FOIA Management  
Office of the Executive Secretariat and Regulatory Affairs  
Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20240  
202-208-3181  
202-208-4451 (direct)  
202-549-8961 (cell)

**To:** Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]; Newell, Russell[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Rigas, Laura  
**Sent:** 2017-10-25T14:00:31-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd: Executive Committee for Expedited Permitting SO  
**Received:** 2017-10-25T14:00:38-04:00  
[SO 3356-ECEP- OES-9-6-17.docx](#)

Not to share, but here's the Word version just for us. FYI.

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** **Howarth, Robert** <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Date:** Wed, Oct 25, 2017 at 1:58 PM  
**Subject:** Fwd: Executive Committee for Expedited Permitting SO  
**To:** Laura Rigas <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)>

as requested...ignore number on the attachment name. it's in redline.

Rob

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** **Devito, Vincent** <[vincent\\_devito@ios.doi.gov](mailto:vincent_devito@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Date:** Wed, Oct 25, 2017 at 12:21 PM  
**Subject:** Executive Committee for Expedited Permitting SO  
**To:** Juliette Lillie <[juliette\\_lillie@ios.doi.gov](mailto:juliette_lillie@ios.doi.gov)>, "Howarth, Robert" <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)>, Laura Rigas <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Cc:** Scott Hommel <[scott\\_hommel@ios.doi.gov](mailto:scott_hommel@ios.doi.gov)>, "downey\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov" <[downey\\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov](mailto:downey_magallanes@ios.doi.gov)>, Russell Newell <[russell\\_newell@ios.doi.gov](mailto:russell_newell@ios.doi.gov)>, Heather Swift <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)>

Hi: The SO was signed last night. Can you please send a copy to Laura (copied) in Word format. Thanks.

--

Robert Howarth  
Deputy Director for Correspondence and FOIA Management  
Office of the Executive Secretariat and Regulatory Affairs  
Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20240  
202-208-3181  
202-208-4451 (direct)  
202-549-8961 (cell)

**To:** Myrick, Brett[brett.myrick@sol.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Keable, Edward[edward.keable@sol.doi.gov]  
**From:** Swift, Heather  
**Sent:** 2017-12-11T12:47:43-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: was phost question travel  
**Received:** 2017-12-11T12:48:30-05:00

Thank you.

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Mon, Dec 11, 2017 at 12:11 PM, Myrick, Brett <[brett.myrick@sol.doi.gov](mailto:brett.myrick@sol.doi.gov)> wrote:

Ed and Heather-

It appears that this information went out pursuant to an NPS records release, 2017-00890. There are a few references to the Channel Islands in the documents (b) (5) [REDACTED], but the attachments at issue went out previously through the NPS.

I did, with the help of Leah Fairman, dig into those NPS docs. I've attached a thread on the Channel Islands which shows the increased cost. "Our weekly boat schedule is Tuesday and Wednesday. Using our boat on Monday would require an additional weekly run to Santa Cruz at a cost of ~750 (this covers primarily fuel, a full reimbursable rate would be \$2228)." Attachment at p. 6. There is another cost comparison that comes out at ~1,700 on pg. 11 "Tim, here are cost [sic] to accommodate the Secretary by staging out of Santa Barbara." (Attachment at p. 11).

No specific mention of Young America's in those documents and there isn't any comment on the Secretary's motivations.

Thanks,  
Brett

On Mon, Dec 11, 2017 at 11:32 AM, Myrick, Brett <[brett.myrick@sol.doi.gov](mailto:brett.myrick@sol.doi.gov)> wrote:

I've got the docs from Leah so I'll look through and let you know what I find. Thanks.

On Mon, Dec 11, 2017 at 11:29 AM, Keable, Edward <[edward.keable@sol.doi.gov](mailto:edward.keable@sol.doi.gov)> wrote:

Brett,

This is the email we talked about. The Washington Post ask is at the end.

Heather,

I have the FOIA documents and Brett and I are going through them to figure out the answer to this question - if it is in the documents. One of us will reach out to you as soon as we have something.

Do you have a time later today when you feel you need to get back to the reporter?

Ed

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Swift, Heather** <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)>

Date: Mon, Dec 11, 2017 at 10:23 AM

Subject: Re: was phost question travel

To: "Jorjani, Daniel" <[daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov](mailto:daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov)>

Cc: "Keable, Edward" <[edward.keable@sol.doi.gov](mailto:edward.keable@sol.doi.gov)>

Yes, thank you!

-

Heather Swift

Department of the Interior

@DOIPressSec

[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Mon, Dec 11, 2017 at 10:13 AM, Jorjani, Daniel <[daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov](mailto:daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov)> wrote:

And please also give her a couple of accurate talking points explaining the context of the trip, so that she has something to give to the reporter. Thank you.

On Mon, Dec 11, 2017 at 10:09 AM, Keable, Edward <[edward.keable@sol.doi.gov](mailto:edward.keable@sol.doi.gov)> wrote:

Heather,

I have ascertained that the documents Mr. Eilperin refers to were produced to PEER by the NPS FOIA office in Denver after a legal review by one of our attorneys in San Francisco. I am working on tracking down documents to review myself. I will share them with you when I get them.

Thanks,

Ed

On Mon, Dec 11, 2017 at 10:04 AM, Jorjani, Daniel <[daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov](mailto:daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov)> wrote:

Ed - Please follow-up directly with Heather at first opportunity.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Keable, Edward** <[edward.keable@sol.doi.gov](mailto:edward.keable@sol.doi.gov)>

Date: Mon, Dec 11, 2017 at 10:00 AM

Subject: Re: was phost question travel

To: Daniel Jorjani <[daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov](mailto:daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov)>

Cc: Timothy Murphy <[timothy.murphy@sol.doi.gov](mailto:timothy.murphy@sol.doi.gov)>, Jennifer Heindl <[jennifer.heindl@sol.doi.gov](mailto:jennifer.heindl@sol.doi.gov)>, Edward McDonnell <[edward.mcdonnell@sol.doi.gov](mailto:edward.mcdonnell@sol.doi.gov)>

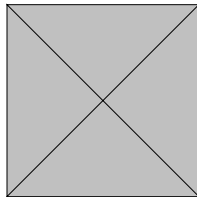
Dan,

I do not have first-hand knowledge of this issue but I am working on tracking down the FOIA documents.

Ed

On Mon, Dec 11, 2017 at 9:31 AM, Daniel Jorjani <[daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov](mailto:daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov)> wrote:

Does DGL or Ethics have any background on this issue?



**Daniel H. Jorjani**  
**Principal Deputy Solicitor**  
**Department of the Interior**  
**Main Interior Building**  
' [202-219-3861](tel:202-219-3861) (Voice)  
[202-706-9018](tel:202-706-9018) (Cell)  
[daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov](mailto:daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov)

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Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Swift, Heather" <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)>

**Date:** December 11, 2017 at 9:07:12 AM EST

**To:** Laura Rigas <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)>, "Magallanes, Downey" <[downey\\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov](mailto:downey_magallanes@ios.doi.gov)>, Daniel Jorjani <[daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov](mailto:daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov)>

**Subject:** was phost question travel

wash post

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

Dear Press Team,

An advocacy group has shared some documents from a FOIA request that concern the Secretary's April 17-18 trip to the Channel Island. The documents show that the federal government incurred extra government expense of more than \$2,000 because the boat normally sails from Ventura Harbor. The reason for the change in harbor appears to be due to the fact that the Secretary chose to address the Young America's Foundation town hall in Santa Barbara.

I plan to post an item of this today (most likely, in the late morning), but I wanted to check in with you all first, especially since in one of the emails, the NPS superintendent seems to indicate that he had heard about Zinke's plans to address the conservative group, and may have extended the invitation to visit after learning about this commitment. So I would like a little more clarity on that.

Thanks so much. I am reachable all of the usual ways, below.

Juliet

Juliet Eilperin

Senior National Affairs Correspondent

Washington Post

[Juliet.eilperin@washpost.com](mailto:Juliet.eilperin@washpost.com)

(O) 202-334-7774

(C) (b) (6)

@eilperin

--

Edward T. Keable  
Deputy Solicitor-General Law  
Office of the Solicitor  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
Phone: 202-208-4423  
Fax: 202-208-5584  
[edward.keable@sol.doi.gov](mailto:edward.keable@sol.doi.gov)

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--

Edward T. Keable  
Deputy Solicitor-General Law  
Office of the Solicitor  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
Phone: 202-208-4423  
Fax: 202-208-5584  
[edward.keable@sol.doi.gov](mailto:edward.keable@sol.doi.gov)

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--

Edward T. Keable  
Deputy Solicitor-General Law  
Office of the Solicitor  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
Phone: 202-208-4423  
Fax: 202-208-5584  
[edward.keable@sol.doi.gov](mailto:edward.keable@sol.doi.gov)

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--

Brett H. Myrick  
Department of the Interior - Office of the Solicitor  
Attorney-Adviser - Division of General Law  
202-208-3820  
Room 6444

--

Brett H. Myrick  
Department of the Interior - Office of the Solicitor  
Attorney-Adviser - Division of General Law  
202-208-3820  
Room 6444



**To:** Keable, Edward[edward.keable@sol.doi.gov]; Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Myrick, Brett  
**Sent:** 2017-12-11T12:11:45-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: was phost question travel  
**Received:** 2017-12-11T12:11:54-05:00  
[Channel Islands Thread.pdf](#)

Ed and Heather-

It appears that this information went out pursuant to an NPS records release, 2017-00890. There are a few references to the Channel Islands in the documents (b) (5), but the attachments at issue went out previously through the NPS.

I did, with the help of Leah Fairman, dig into those NPS docs. I've attached a thread on the Channel Islands which shows the increased cost. "Our weekly boat schedule is Tuesday and Wednesday. Using our boat on Monday would require an additional weekly run to Santa Cruz at a cost of ~750 (this covers primarily fuel, a full reimbursable rate would be \$2228)." Attachment at p. 6. There is another cost comparison that comes out at ~1,700 on pg. 11 "Tim, here are cost [sic] to accommodate the Secretary by staging out of Santa Barbara." (Attachment at p. 11).

No specific mention of Young America's in those documents and there isn't any comment on the Secretary's motivations.

Thanks,  
Brett

On Mon, Dec 11, 2017 at 11:32 AM, Myrick, Brett <[brett.myrick@sol.doi.gov](mailto:brett.myrick@sol.doi.gov)> wrote:

I've got the docs from Leah so I'll look through and let you know what I find. Thanks.

On Mon, Dec 11, 2017 at 11:29 AM, Keable, Edward <[edward.keable@sol.doi.gov](mailto:edward.keable@sol.doi.gov)> wrote:

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This is the email we talked about. The Washington Post ask is at the end.

Heather,

I have the FOIA documents and Brett and I are going through them to figure out the answer to this question - if it is in the documents. One of us will reach out to you as soon as we have something.

Do you have a time later today when you feel you need to get back to the reporter?

Ed

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Date:** Mon, Dec 11, 2017 at 10:23 AM  
**Subject:** Re: was phost question travel  
**To:** "Jorjani, Daniel" <[daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov](mailto:daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov)>  
**Cc:** "Keable, Edward" <[edward.keable@sol.doi.gov](mailto:edward.keable@sol.doi.gov)>

Yes, thank you!

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Mon, Dec 11, 2017 at 10:13 AM, Jorjani, Daniel <[daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov](mailto:daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov)> wrote:

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On Mon, Dec 11, 2017 at 10:09 AM, Keable, Edward <[edward.keable@sol.doi.gov](mailto:edward.keable@sol.doi.gov)> wrote:

Heather,

I have ascertained that the documents Mr. Eilperin refers to were produced to PEER by the NPS FOIA office in Denver after a legal review by one of our attorneys in San Francisco. I am working on tracking down documents to review myself. I will share them with you when I get them.

Thanks,

Ed

On Mon, Dec 11, 2017 at 10:04 AM, Jorjani, Daniel <[daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov](mailto:daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov)> wrote:

Ed - Please follow-up directly with Heather at first opportunity.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Keable, Edward** <[edward.keable@sol.doi.gov](mailto:edward.keable@sol.doi.gov)>  
Date: Mon, Dec 11, 2017 at 10:00 AM  
Subject: Re: was phost question travel  
To: Daniel Jorjani <[daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov](mailto:daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov)>  
Cc: Timothy Murphy <[timothy.murphy@sol.doi.gov](mailto:timothy.murphy@sol.doi.gov)>, Jennifer Heindl <[jennifer.heindl@sol.doi.gov](mailto:jennifer.heindl@sol.doi.gov)>, Edward McDonnell <[edward.mcdonnell@sol.doi.gov](mailto:edward.mcdonnell@sol.doi.gov)>

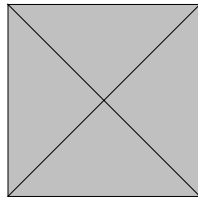
Dan,

I do not have first-hand knowledge of this issue but I am working on tracking down the FOIA documents.

Ed

On Mon, Dec 11, 2017 at 9:31 AM, Daniel Jorjani <[daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov](mailto:daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov)> wrote:

Does DGL or Ethics have any background on this issue?



**Daniel H. Jorjani**  
**Principal Deputy Solicitor**  
**Department of the Interior**  
**Main Interior Building**  
**' [202-219-3861](tel:202-219-3861) (Voice)**  
**[202-706-9018](tel:202-706-9018) (Cell)**  
**[daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov](mailto:daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov)**

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Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Swift, Heather" <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Date:** December 11, 2017 at 9:07:12 AM EST  
**To:** Laura Rigas <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)>, "Magallanes, Downey" <[downey\\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov](mailto:downey_magallanes@ios.doi.gov)>, Daniel Jorjani <[daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov](mailto:daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov)>  
**Subject:** was phost question travel

wash post

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
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[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

Dear Press Team,

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I plan to post an item of this today (most likely, in the late morning), but I wanted to check in with you all first, especially since in one of the emails, the NPS superintendent seems to indicate that he had heard about Zinke's plans to address the conservative group, and may have extended the invitation to visit after learning about this commitment. So I would like a little more clarity on that.

Thanks so much. I am reachable all of the usual ways, below.

Juliet

Juliet Eilperin

Senior National Affairs Correspondent

Washington Post

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(C) (b) (6)

@eilperin

--

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Brett H. Myrick  
Department of the Interior - Office of the Solicitor  
Attorney-Adviser - Division of General Law  
202-208-3820  
Room 6444

--

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Attorney-Adviser - Division of General Law

202-208-3820  
Room 6444

**To:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Brett Myrick[brett.myrick@sol.doi.gov]  
**From:** Edward Keable  
**Sent:** 2017-12-11T12:04:29-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: was phost question travel  
**Received:** 2017-12-11T12:04:36-05:00

Heather,

I have gone through most but not all of the FOIA records and have now run to a meeting. Brett is still looking through them.

My review has so far (b) (5) [REDACTED]  
Unless Brett finds something I have not yet found, we may need to talk to Rusty who manages the trip to get an answer to the question.

Ed

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 11, 2017, at 11:32 AM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Thank you, gentlemen. I'll ask the reporter for her hard deadline.

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
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[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Mon, Dec 11, 2017 at 11:29 AM, Keable, Edward <[edward.keable@sol.doi.gov](mailto:edward.keable@sol.doi.gov)> wrote:

Brett,

This is the email we talked about. The Washington Post ask is at the end.

Heather,

I have the FOIA documents and Brett and I are going through them to figure out the answer to this question - if it is in the documents. One of us will reach out to you as soon as we have something.

Do you have a time later today when you feel you need to get back to the reporter?

Ed

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Date:** Mon, Dec 11, 2017 at 10:23 AM  
**Subject:** Re: was phost question travel

To: "Jorjani, Daniel" <[daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov](mailto:daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov)>  
Cc: "Keable, Edward" <[edward.keable@sol.doi.gov](mailto:edward.keable@sol.doi.gov)>

Yes, thank you!

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On Mon, Dec 11, 2017 at 10:13 AM, Jorjani, Daniel <[daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov](mailto:daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov)> wrote:

And please also give her a couple of accurate talking points explaining the context of the trip, so that she has something to give to the reporter. Thank you.

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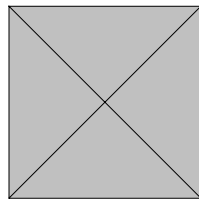
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Thanks so much. I am reachable all of the usual ways, below.

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**To:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Jorjani, Daniel[daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov]; Scott Hommel[scott\_hommel@ios.doi.gov]; Boulton, Caroline[caroline\_boulton@ios.doi.gov]; Laura Rigas[laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Keable, Edward  
**Sent:** 2017-12-11T15:28:10-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Wash Post Q/A  
**Received:** 2017-12-11T15:28:37-05:00

OK, then I am good with this answer. Ed

On Mon, Dec 11, 2017 at 3:26 PM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

(b) (5) brought up in an additional email from the reporter.

-

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On Mon, Dec 11, 2017 at 3:22 PM, Keable, Edward <[edward.keable@sol.doi.gov](mailto:edward.keable@sol.doi.gov)> wrote:

Heather,

Even as amended, I am not sure (b) (5). The question appears to be about the speech to the Republican Club of Santa Barbara and its origin, (b) (5).

Maybe I am missing something.

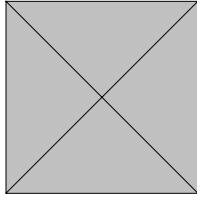
Ed

On Mon, Dec 11, 2017 at 2:29 PM, Jorjani, Daniel <[daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov](mailto:daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov)> wrote:

WVP is not a "political" organization as defined by the IRS, so edit your first statement to read as follows:

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That is objectively true and can be easily documented by going to the WVP website. Again, it is not a 527.



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On Mon, Dec 11, 2017 at 1:59 PM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Here is the WP inquiry and below in pink is my proposed response.

## WP

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*"Russell Galipeau (CHIS superintendent) heard from on-the-ground sources that SOI Zinke will be speaking to the Republican Club in Santa Barbara Apr. 17. Rumor has it that his staff asked NOAA to take him out to the islands. CHIS park staff are more than happy to take him out. Have you heard anything about this? Thanks!"*

Now, this seems to indicate that it was the Secretary's staff that requested the trip, after booking the speaking event, but I just wanted to make sure it was not the other way around. Is that clearer?

## Response

The Western Values Project is a political group run by Montana Democratic Party and campaign staff.

The Secretary's visit to Channel Islands National Park was part of a multi-day visit to multiple Department of the Interior assets across the state from Sacramento all the way south to the Channel Islands. The Secretary had always planned to meet with the team at Channel Islands National Park, and the office of scheduling reached out to the superintendent's office as soon as it was clear when he could go. Discussion of the visit began in early April when the Secretary spoke with The Nature Conservancy, who helps manage the Islands.

Concerning the cost of boat, no costs were incurred due to Mrs. Zinke's presence. The Zinke's personally paid via check for aunt's boat fare.

-

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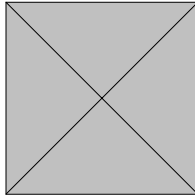
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**To:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Laura Rigas[laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Jorjani, Daniel  
**Sent:** 2017-12-11T14:35:23-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Wash Post Q/A  
**Received:** 2017-12-11T14:36:13-05:00

Yes, it just depends on how hard you want to hit. Give me a call when you have a chance at 202-706-9018.



**Daniel H. Jorjani**  
Principal Deputy Solicitor  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
Main Interior Building, Suite 6356  
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Thanks, Dan. Can I say: The Western Values Project is a **politically biased organization which is** run by current and former Montana Democratic Party members and campaign staff.

-

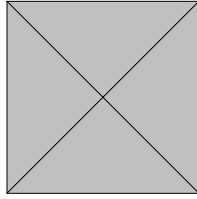
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**To:** Boulton, Caroline[caroline\_boulton@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Swift, Heather  
**Sent:** 2017-12-11T14:21:33-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Wash Post Q/A  
**Received:** 2017-12-11T14:22:15-05:00

Thanks, thought I mentioned that but good catch!

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Mon, Dec 11, 2017 at 2:19 PM, Boulton, Caroline <[caroline\\_boulton@ios.doi.gov](mailto:caroline_boulton@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

They also paid for Lola's boat fare via check (since that seems like something they might nit-pick).

Technically my first invite from TNC was in late March if that matters.

On Mon, Dec 11, 2017 at 1:59 PM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Here is the WP inquiry and below in pink is my proposed response.

## **WP**

An advocacy group has shared some documents from a FOIA request that concern the Secretary's April 17-18 trip to the Channel Island. The documents show that the federal government incurred extra government expense of more than \$2,000 because the boat normally sails from Ventura Harbor. The reason for the change in harbor appears to be due to the fact that the Secretary chose to address the Young America's Foundation town hall in Santa Barbara.

There is an email on March 20 from Stephanie Burkhart (associate regional director, communications, oversight and analysis for NPS Pacific West Region) to NPS press staff in DC which says:

*"Russell Galipeau (CHIS superintendent) heard from on-the-ground sources that SOI Zinke will be speaking to the Republican Club in Santa Barbara Apr. 17. Rumor has it that his staff asked NOAA to take him out to the islands. CHIS park staff are more than happy to take him out. Have you heard anything about this? Thanks!"*

Now, this seems to indicate that it was the Secretary's staff that requested the trip, after booking the speaking event, but I just wanted to make sure it was not the other way around. Is that clearer?

## **Response**

The Western Values Project is a political group run by Montana Democratic Party and campaign staff.

The Secretary's visit to Channel Islands National Park was part of a multi-day visit to multiple Department of the Interior assets across the state from Sacramento all the way south to the Channel Islands. The Secretary had always planned to meet with the team at Channel Islands National Park, and the office of scheduling reached out to the superintendent's office as soon as it was clear when he could go. Discussion of the visit began in early April when the Secretary spoke with The Nature Conservancy, who helps manage the Islands.

Concerning the cost of boat, no costs were incurred due to Mrs. Zinke's presence. The Zinke's personally paid via check for aunt's boat fare.

-

Heather Swift

Department of the Interior

@DOIPressSec

[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

--

Caroline Boulton

Special Assistant to the Secretary

U.S. Department of the Interior

Office of Scheduling & Advance

[Caroline\\_Boulton@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Caroline_Boulton@ios.doi.gov) | [Scheduling@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Scheduling@ios.doi.gov)

**To:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Kaster, Amanda[amanda\_kaster@ios.doi.gov]; Timothy Williams[timothy\_williams@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Kathleen Benedetto  
**Sent:** 2017-08-23T20:17:44-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Western Values Project  
**Received:** 2017-08-23T20:17:52-04:00

We have letters from all kinds of groups and organizations, we provided an opportunity for people to send in their positions. However, the report was put together by career employees with input from the States through the Federal-State Sage Grouse task force that is managed through the Western Governors Association. The States in cooperation with the BLM and other agencies will be holding public meetings and conducting outreach with all stakeholders over the next couple of months. KB

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 23, 2017, at 7:10 PM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

TY kathy!

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Wed, Aug 23, 2017 at 8:09 PM, Kathleen Benedetto  
<[kathleen\\_benedetto@ios.doi.gov](mailto:kathleen_benedetto@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Nothing in the report was based on what non-governmental organizations wanted. That would include Environmental NGOs, industry, trade associations or others.

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 23, 2017, at 4:45 PM, Kaster, Amanda <[amanda\\_kaster@ios.doi.gov](mailto:amanda_kaster@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Adding in Kathy - the report was based on direct and multiple consultations with states.

On Wed, Aug 23, 2017 at 5:02 PM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)>  
wrote:

## Thoughts?

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Heather Richards** <[Heather.Richards@trib.com](mailto:Heather.Richards@trib.com)>  
Date: Wed, Aug 23, 2017 at 4:49 PM  
Subject: Western Values Project  
To: "Swift, Heather ([heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov))" <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)>

Hi Heather,

I was hoping someone could respond to the implication that the DOI was unduly influenced by oil and gas industry groups during the sage grouse review. The Western Values Project has filed a FOIA in regard to a letter from Western Energy Alliance requesting that the DOI change a number of things in the sage grouse RMPS. Of their recommendations a majority were included in the final report to the Interior Secretary.

Thank you,

Heather Richards

--

Amanda Kaster-Averill  
Advisor to the Secretary  
Office of Congressional and Legislative Affairs  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 208-3337  
[amanda\\_kaster@ios.doi.gov](mailto:amanda_kaster@ios.doi.gov)

**To:** Heather Richards[Heather.Richards@trib.com]  
**From:** Heather Swift  
**Sent:** 2017-08-23T17:47:39-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Western Values Project  
**Received:** 2017-08-23T17:47:47-04:00

The report was conducted in direct consultation with multiple states.

Heather Swift  
Press Secretary  
Department of the Interior

On Aug 23, 2017, at 4:50 PM, Heather Richards <[Heather.Richards@trib.com](mailto:Heather.Richards@trib.com)> wrote:

Hi Heather,  
I was hoping someone could respond to the implication that the DOI was unduly influenced by oil and gas industry groups during the sage grouse review. The Western Values Project has filed a FOIA in regard to a letter from Western Energy Alliance requesting that the DOI change a number of things in the sage grouse RMPS. Of their recommendations a majority were included in the final report to the Interior Secretary.  
Thank you,  
Heather Richards

**To:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Timothy Williams[timothy\_williams@ios.doi.gov]; Amanda Kaster[amanda\_kaster@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Katharine MacGregor  
**Sent:** 2017-08-23T17:33:00-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Western Values Project  
**Received:** 2017-08-23T17:33:07-04:00

Hmm I think you might ping Kathy on this since she was lead on SG and I'm sure their task force met with a wide variety of stakeholders, most especially respecting the feedback from state partners...as directed by the Secretarial Order.

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 23, 2017, at 5:02 PM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Thoughts?

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Heather Richards <[Heather.Richards@trib.com](mailto:Heather.Richards@trib.com)>  
**Date:** Wed, Aug 23, 2017 at 4:49 PM  
**Subject:** Western Values Project  
**To:** "Swift, Heather ([heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov))" <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)>

Hi Heather,

I was hoping someone could respond to the implication that the DOI was unduly influenced by oil and gas industry groups during the sage grouse review. The Western Values Project has filed a FOIA in regard to a letter from Western Energy Alliance requesting that the DOI change a number of things in the sage grouse RMPS. Of their recommendations a majority were included in the final report to the Interior Secretary.

Thank you,

Heather Richards

**To:** Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Eli Nachmany[eli\_nachmany@ios.doi.gov]; Newell, Russell[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Laura Rigas  
**Sent:** 2017-07-31T18:55:55-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: WV Berwind Coal Project Press Release  
**Received:** 2017-07-31T18:56:04-04:00

Thx. We are good.

Laura Keehner Rigas  
Communications Director  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 897-7022 cell  
@Interior

On Jul 31, 2017, at 6:45 PM, Heather Swift <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Jorjani said he was good with whatever Todd approved. Todd did not add anything he only deleted.

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 31, 2017, at 6:38 PM, Laura Rigas <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

I didn't get it in my inbox. Can someone pls send final? Thx!

Laura Keehner Rigas  
Communications Director  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 897-7022 cell  
@Interior

On Jul 31, 2017, at 6:27 PM, Eli Nachmany <[eli\\_nachmany@ios.doi.gov](mailto:eli_nachmany@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Got the thumbs up from Heather after Todd gave the OK, and Vincent came to my office and said to send ASAP. I figured that was sufficient, but if I didn't get all the sign-off necessary I really apologize -- is there a process for retracting a release if that is the case? I feel terrible about this one.

Sincerely,  
Eli Nachmany  
Writer, U.S. Department of the Interior



(202) 706-9285

On Jul 31, 2017, at 6:19 PM, Laura Rigas <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Did SOL, Downey, and Heather approve?

Laura Keehner Rigas  
Communications Director  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 897-7022 cell  
@Interior

On Jul 31, 2017, at 5:50 PM, Nachmany, Eli  
<[eli\\_nachmany@ios.doi.gov](mailto:eli_nachmany@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Just sent it out! Thanks  
everyone for the hard work on  
this -- great to highlight our  
coal miners getting back to  
work.

--

Sincerely,  
Eli Nachmany  
Writer, U.S. Department of the Interior  
Office of Communications

On Mon, Jul 31, 2017 at 5:38 PM, Devito, Vincent  
<[vincent\\_devito@ios.doi.gov](mailto:vincent_devito@ios.doi.gov)>  
wrote:

Thanks, all for rapid response.  
Please send out ASAP.  
Thanks, again.

On Mon, Jul 31, 2017 at 5:26 PM, Todd Willens  
<[todd\\_willens@ios.doi.gov](mailto:todd_willens@ios.doi.gov)>  
wrote:

AsFWP is fine with edits.  
FWS is fine with the edits.

Todd Willens  
Assistant Deputy Secretary  
Acting Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks

U.S. Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW - MIB Room 6116  
Washington, DC 20240

On Jul 31, 2017, at 11:03 AM, Nachmany, Eli  
<[eli\\_nachmany@ios.doi.gov](mailto:eli_nachmany@ios.doi.gov)>  
wrote:

**Interior  
Secretary  
Zinke  
Applauds  
Mine  
Proposal to  
Create Jobs  
in Virginia  
and West  
Virginia**

**WASHINGTON** – Today U.S. Secretary of the Interior Ryan Zinke applauded the initial construction of the Berwind Mine located on the border of West Virginia and Virginia. The developers, Ramaco Resources, expect the mine to initially create 50 good-paying jobs and employ roughly 200 coal miners when the mine reaches its projected production level.

The Berwind Coal Reserve is estimated to contain about 72 million tons of clean recoverable metallurgical coal, which is critical for infrastructure and is used for steel, roads, bridges, and building construction. The Berwind Mine will produce about 800,000 tons per year and will create jobs in some of the hardest-hit areas of Appalachian region including McDowell County, West Virginia as well as Buchanan and Tazewell Counties in Virginia.

Although the mine is on private land, the Department of the Interior, through the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, had a role in approving wildlife conservation plans for two species of crayfish in conjunction with the State of West Virginia's Department of Environmental

Protection.

"Appalachia's coal workers are at the heart of rebuilding our nation's infrastructure because we can't build if we don't access our natural resources," **said Secretary Ryan Zinke.** "Under President Trump's leadership, the Department of the Interior is dedicated to being a good partner with local communities. This administration is dedicated to streamlining permitting and approval processes, and empowering local employees to get work done on the front lines. The Berwind Mine is the first of many projects that demonstrate the Trump Administration's commitment to coal country and to good government."

"Ramaco appreciates the Trump Administration and the Department of the Interior taking an interest in our project and

helping find a solution relative to this unnecessary delay,” said **Michael Bauersachs, the CEO of Ramaco Resources.** “Coal mining jobs can be created and preserved by a more pragmatic approach to regulation. On behalf of the coal industry, we look forward to seeing better and more timely results from agencies who interact with coal mining.”

“On behalf of Secretary Zinke, it was a pleasure to meet the folks in West Virginia involved in this project and to work together to resolve the issues for immediate progress,” said **Vincent DeVito, counselor to the Secretary for Energy Policy.** “This Administration's common sense approach to reasonable regulations enables us to deliver results.”

The West Virginia Coal Association (WVCA) sang

President Trump's praises for his administration's commitment to rebuilding America's coal communities. "Once again, President Trump has shown West Virginia coal miners that he meant it when he said he would help them get back to work," **said WVCA Vice President Jason Bostic.** "This administration shows exactly how the federal government can be a partner with the states and facilitate coal mining development while still fulfilling its responsibilities to protect the environment."

"The expansion of the Berwind mine will create 50 well-paying jobs, and is a perfect example of what we can achieve when government works as a partner not an adversary," **Senator Joe Manchin said.** "It is good

news for McDowell County and all of West Virginia. We know that coal will be in the energy mix for decades to come and I'm encouraged by the work of Secretary Zinke and the Fish and Wildlife Service in ensuring this project moves forward. This mine will produce 800,000 tons of clean recoverable metallurgical coal annually that will help rebuild our roads, bridges, and other critical infrastructure. This mine is a key ingredient to powering our country's infrastructure restoration. I look forward to hearing about Berwind mine's positive impact on McDowell County, I applaud this decision, and I will continue to fight for economic growth throughout our great state."

"Not only will the Berwind Mine help create jobs for

West Virginians, but it will also help our state continue leading the push to improve and expand America's energy potential," **Senator Shelley Moore Capito** said. "It's great to see the public and private sectors working together to advance this project, and I appreciate the administration's continued support in promoting a true all-of-the-above energy strategy—both in West Virginia and across the country."

"I welcome the expansion of the Berwind mine, which extends into Buchanan and Tazewell Counties," **said Virginia Congressman Morgan Griffith.** "Miners, other workers at the mine, and employees of mining supply companies will be put to work and be able to spend money in



their  
communities.  
Localities will  
receive the  
appropriate coal  
severance taxes,  
which will help  
support their  
schools. Thus,  
Southwest  
Virginia will  
benefit from this  
move.”

“Finally, after eight years of anti-coal policies, coal is  
beginning to see  
a rebound," **said**  
**West Virginia**  
**Congressman**  
**David B.**  
**McKinley, P.E.,**  
**chairman of the**  
**Congressional**  
**Coal Caucus.**  
"From increased  
exports to new  
mines opening,  
we're seeing  
positive  
developments in  
coal country. The  
Trump  
Administration is  
committed to  
bringing coal jobs  
back, and we  
look forward to  
working together  
to do just that.”

**West Virginia Secretary of the Department of**  
**Environmental**  
**Protection**  
**Austin Caperton**  
**said, “The**  
legislation that  
created the

WVDEP  
mandates that we  
protect the  
environment ‘in a  
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consistent with  
the benefits to be  
derived from  
strong... energy-  
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Code 22-1-  
1(b)(4). We  
applaud all  
efforts at the  
federal level that  
allow us to carry  
out our mission  
and strike the  
proper balance.”

###

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Sincerely,  
Eli Nachmany  
Writer, U.S.  
Department of  
the Interior  
Office of  
Communications

On Mon, Jul 31, 2017 at 9:49 AM, Eli Nachmany  
<[eli\\_nachmany@ios.doi.gov](mailto:eli_nachmany@ios.doi.gov)>  
wrote:

Sure thing! Will  
do right after the  
10AM politicals.  
Looping in  
Heather.

Sincerely,  
Eli Nachmany  
Writer, U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 706-9285

On Jul 31, 2017, at 9:39 AM, Willens, Todd

[<todd\\_willens@ios.doi.gov>](mailto:todd_willens@ios.doi.gov)

wrote:

Eli,  
below are edits to this version. Highlighted parts should be deleted. Can you send back to me after you make these. I would like to see the final befo

re  
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nks.

Todd Willens  
Assistant Deputy Secretary  
Acting Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW -- MIB Room 6116  
Washington, DC 20240  
office: 202-208-6291

NOTE: Every email I send or receive is subject to release under the Freedom of  
Information Act.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Jorjani, Daniel**

<[daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov](mailto:daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov)>  
>

Date: Sat, Jul 29, 2017 at 9:56 AM  
Subject: Re: WV Berwind Coal Project Press

Rele  
ase

To: Kevin Haugrud <[jack.haugrud@sol.doi.gov](mailto:jack.haugrud@sol.doi.gov)>,

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or  
<[kate\\_macgregor@ios.doi.gov](mailto:kate_macgregor@ios.doi.gov)>

Cc: Richard Goeken

<[richard\\_goeken@solidoi.gov](mailto:richard_goeken@solidoi.gov)>,  
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Jack: Good challenge. Adding Todd, Greg, and

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Todd, Greg, and Casey: Please make sure that you

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Kate - Doesn't appear that OSM has a direct interest  
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On Sat, Jul 29, 2017 at 9:47 AM, Kevin Haugrud  
<[jac](mailto:jac)>

[k.haugrud@solidoi.gov](mailto:k.haugrud@solidoi.gov)  
wrote:  
e:

The entire release is in effect outlining DO I's work in breaking through the log jam on craftyfish. I would think we



would want and need confirmation from FW S, who will be reading this release with interest, that they agree with the characterization

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please provide all documents related to the review and approval

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From: "Jorjani, Daniel"

<[d](#)

[anjeljanis@ol.doi.gov](mailto:anjeljanis@ol.doi.gov)  
v>

Date: Sat, July 29, 2017 8:35 AM -0400  
To: Richard Goeken

<[richardgoeken@ol.doi.gov](mailto:richardgoeken@ol.doi.gov)>, "Richard Goeken, Peg"

<[pegromanik@ol.doi.gov](mailto:pegromanik@ol.doi.gov)>, Kevin Haugrud  
<[jack.haugrud](mailto:jack.haugrud)>



[d@sol.doi.gov](#)

CC: James Cason <[james\\_cason@ios.doi.gov](mailto:james_cason@ios.doi.gov)>  
Subject: Re: WV Berwind Coal Project Press

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Rick, Peg, and Jack - Can DMR and DPW take a

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On Sat, Jul 29, 2017 at 8:32 AM, Jorjani, Daniel

[daniel.jorjani@solido.gov](mailto:daniel.jorjani@solido.gov)  
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----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Jorjani, Daniel**

[daniel.jorjani](mailto:daniel.jorjani)

Date: Sat, Jul 29, 2017 at 8:31 AM  
Subject: Re: WV Berwind Coal Project Press

To: Vincent Devito <[vincent\\_devito@ios.doi.gov](mailto:vincent_devito@ios.doi.gov)>

[@ios.doi.gov](mailto:vincent_devito@ios.doi.gov)

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<[t](mailto:tdodds@ios.doi.gov)

Cc: "Nachmany, Eli"

[d.willens@ios.cs.digoy.com](mailto:d.willens@ios.cs.digoy.com)  
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<[elinachmany@ios.cs.digoy.com](mailto:elinachmany@ios.cs.digoy.com)>, Land on Davis <[anderson@ios.cs.digoy.com](mailto:anderson@ios.cs.digoy.com)>

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Vincent - Thank you for the edits. Adding Kate and  
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Kate and Todd - POTUS will be in WV on August

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On Sat, Jul 29, 2017 at 8:29 AM, Vincent Devito

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On Jul 29, 2017, at 7:04 AM, Vincent Devito

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Hi,

My rewrite of the 2nd paragraph.

Although the mine is on private land, the Department of the Interior through the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has a role regarding wildlife conservation plans in conjunction with the State of West Virginia's Department of Environmental Protection. There are currently about a dozen pending projects that require USFWS coordination in the region.

Also, consider (b) (5)

This should go out NLT Monday.

Adding Tucker.

Thanks,  
Vincent

On Jul 28, 2017, at 4:11 PM, Nachmany, Eli  
<[eli\\_nachmany@ios.doi.gov](mailto:eli_nachmany@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Hey guys,  
I'm passing along the press release  
Heather and I were working on  
yesterday for the WV coal mine  
release.

Sincerely,  
Eli Nachmany  
Writer, U.S. Department of the Interior  
Office of Communications

## **Interior Secretary Zinke Applauds Mine Proposal to Create Jobs in Virginia and West Virginia**

**WASHINGTON** – Today U.S. Secretary of the Interior Ryan Zinke applauded the initial construction of the Berwind Mine located on the border of West Virginia and Virginia. The developers, Ramaco Resources, expect the mine to initially create 50 good-paying jobs and employ roughly 200 coal miners when the mine reaches its projected production level. The Berwind Coal Reserve is estimated to contain about 72 million tons of clean recoverable Metallurgical coal, which is critical for infrastructure and is used

for steel, roads, bridges, and building construction. The Berwind Mine will produce about 800,000 tons per year and will create jobs in some of the hardest-hit areas of Appalachian region including McDowell County, West Virginia as well as Buchanan and Tazewell Counties in Virginia.

Although the mine is on private land, the Department of the Interior through the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service had a role in approving wildlife conservation plans for two species of crayfish in conjunction with the State of West Virginia's Department of Environmental Protection. (b)(5)

[REDACTED]

"Appalachia's coal workers are at the heart of rebuilding our nation's infrastructure because we can't build if we don't access our natural resources," **said Secretary Ryan Zinke**. "Under President Trump's leadership, the Department of the Interior is dedicated to being a good partner with local communities. This administration is dedicated to streamlining permitting and approval processes, (b) (5), and empowering local employees to get work done on the front lines (b) (5)

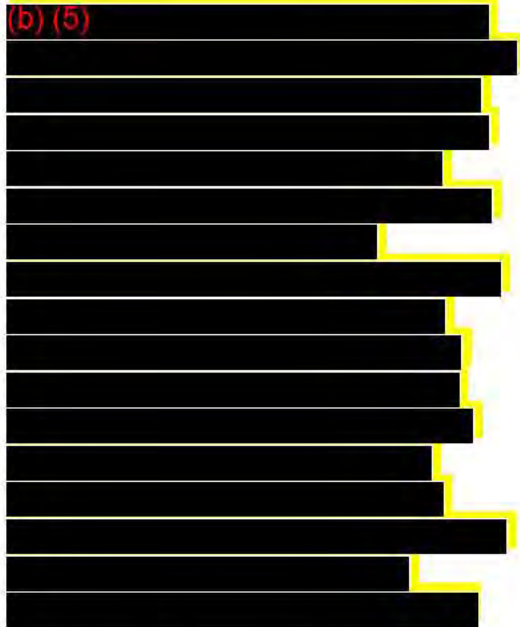
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]. The Berwind Mine is the first of many many projects that prove the Trump Administration's commitment to coal country and to good government."

"Ramaco appreciates the Trump Administration and the Department of the Interior taking an interest in our project and helping find a solution relative to this unnecessary delay," **said**

**Michael Bauersachs, the CEO of Ramaco Resources.** “Coal mining jobs can be created and preserved by a more pragmatic approach to regulation. On behalf of the coal industry, we look forward to seeing better and more timely results from agencies who interact with coal mining.”

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“On behalf of Secretary Zinke, it was a pleasure to meet the folks in West Virginia involved in this project and work together to resolves the issues for immediate progress,” **said Vincent DeVito, counselor to the Secretary for Energy Policy.** “This Administration's commonsense approach to reasonable regulations enables us to deliver results.”

The West Virginia Coal Association (WVCA) sang President Trump’s praises for his administration’s commitment to rebuilding America’s coal communities. “Once again, President Trump has shown West Virginia coal miners that he meant it when he said he would help them get back to work,” **said WVCA Vice**

**President Jason Bostic.** “This administration shows exactly how the federal government can be a partner with the states and facilitate coal mining development while still fulfilling its responsibilities to protect the environment.”

“The expansion of the Berwind mine will create 50 well-paying jobs, and is a perfect example of what we can achieve when government works as a partner not an adversary,” **Senator Joe Manchin said.** “It is good news for McDowell County and all of West Virginia. We know that coal will be in the energy mix for decades to come and I’m encouraged by the work of Secretary Zinke and the Fish and Wildlife Service in ensuring this project moves forward. This mine will produce 800,000 tons of clean recoverable metallurgical coal annually that will help rebuild our roads, bridges, and other critical infrastructure. This mine is a key ingredient to powering our country’s infrastructure restoration. I look forward to hearing about Berwind mine’s positive impact on McDowell County, I applaud this decision, and I will continue to fight for economic growth throughout our great state.”

“Not only will the Berwind Mine help create jobs for West Virginians, but it will also help our state continue leading the push to improve and expand America’s energy potential,” **Senator Shelley Moore Capito said.** “It’s great to see the public and private sectors working together to advance this project, and I appreciate the administration’s continued support in promoting a true all-of-the-above energy strategy—both in West Virginia and across the country.”

“I welcome the expansion of the Berwind mine, which extends into Buchanan and Tazewell Counties,” **said Virginia**

**Congressman Morgan Griffith.**

“Miners, other workers at the mine, and employees of mining supply companies will be put to work and be able to spend money in their communities. Localities will receive the appropriate coal severance taxes, which will help support their schools. Thus, Southwest Virginia will benefit from this move.”

“Finally, after eight years of anti-coal policies, coal is beginning to see a rebound,” **said West Virginia Congressman David B. McKinley, P.E., chairman of the Congressional Coal Caucus.** “From increased exports to new mines opening, we’re seeing positive developments in coal country. The Trump Administration is committed to bringing coal jobs back, and we look forward to working together to do just that.”

**West Virginia Secretary of the Department of Environmental Protection Austin Caperton said,**

“The legislation that created the WVDEP mandates that we protect the environment ‘in a manner consistent with the benefits to be derived from strong... energy-producing industries’ (WV Code 22-1-1(b)(4). We applaud all efforts at the federal level that allow us to carry out our mission and strike the proper balance.”

###

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Vincent DeVito, Esq.  
Counselor to the Secretary of Interior for Energy Policy  
Immediate Office of the Secretary  
+1.202.208.2884  
[vincent\\_devito@ios.doi.gov](mailto:vincent_devito@ios.doi.gov)



**To:** Devito, Vincent[vincent\_devito@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Todd Willens[todd\_willens@ios.doi.gov]; Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]; Laura Rigas[laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov]; Newell, Russell[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov]; greg\_j\_sheehan@fws.gov[greg\_j\_sheehan@fws.gov]; Daniel Jorjani[daniel\_jorjani@ios.doi.gov]; Magallanes, Downey[downey\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov]; Landon Davis[landon\_davis@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Nachmany, Eli  
**Sent:** 2017-07-31T17:50:45-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: WV Berwind Coal Project Press Release  
**Received:** 2017-07-31T17:50:57-04:00

Just sent it out! Thanks everyone for the hard work on this -- great to highlight our coal miners getting back to work.

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Sincerely,  
Eli Nachmany  
Writer, U.S. Department of the Interior  
Office of Communications

On Mon, Jul 31, 2017 at 5:38 PM, Devito, Vincent <[vincent\\_devito@ios.doi.gov](mailto:vincent_devito@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Thanks, all for rapid response. Please send out ASAP. Thanks, again.

On Mon, Jul 31, 2017 at 5:26 PM, Todd Willens <[todd\\_willens@ios.doi.gov](mailto:todd_willens@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

AsFWP is fine with edits. FWS is fine with the edits.

Todd Willens  
Assistant Deputy Secretary  
Acting Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW - MIB Room 6116  
Washington, DC 20240

On Jul 31, 2017, at 11:03 AM, Nachmany, Eli <[eli\\_nachmany@ios.doi.gov](mailto:eli_nachmany@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

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to contain about 72 million tons of clean recoverable metallurgical coal, which is critical for infrastructure and is used for steel, roads, bridges, and building construction. The Berwind Mine will produce about 800,000 tons per year and will create jobs in some of the hardest-hit areas of Appalachian region including McDowell County, West Virginia as well as Buchanan and Tazewell Counties in Virginia.

Although the mine is on private land, the Department of the Interior, through the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, had a role in approving wildlife conservation plans for two species of crayfish in conjunction with the State of West Virginia's Department of Environmental Protection.

"Appalachia's coal workers are at the heart of rebuilding our nation's infrastructure because we can't build if we don't access our natural resources," **said Secretary Ryan Zinke**. "Under President Trump's leadership, the Department of the Interior is dedicated to being a good partner with local communities. This administration is dedicated to streamlining permitting and approval processes, and empowering local employees to get work done on the front lines. The Berwind Mine is the first of many projects that demonstrate the Trump Administration's commitment to coal country and to good government."

"Ramaco appreciates the Trump Administration and the Department of the Interior taking an interest in our project and helping find a solution relative to this unnecessary delay," **said Michael Bauersachs, the CEO of Ramaco Resources**. "Coal mining jobs can be created and preserved by a more pragmatic approach to regulation. On behalf of the coal industry, we look forward to seeing better and more timely results from agencies who interact with coal mining."

"On behalf of Secretary Zinke, it was a pleasure to meet the folks in West Virginia involved in this project and to work together to resolve the issues for immediate progress," **said Vincent DeVito, counselor to the Secretary for Energy Policy**. "This Administration's common sense approach to reasonable regulations enables us to deliver results."

The West Virginia Coal Association (WVCA) sang President Trump's praises for his administration's commitment to rebuilding America's coal communities. "Once again, President Trump has shown West Virginia coal miners that he meant it when he said he would help them get back to work," **said WVCA Vice President Jason Bostic**. "This administration shows exactly how the federal government can be a partner with the states and facilitate coal mining development while still fulfilling its responsibilities to protect the environment."

"The expansion of the Berwind mine will create 50 well-paying jobs, and is a perfect example of what we can achieve when government works as a partner not an adversary," **Senator Joe Manchin said**. "It is good news for McDowell County and all of West Virginia. We know that coal will be in the energy mix for decades to come and I'm encouraged by the work of Secretary Zinke and the

Fish and Wildlife Service in ensuring this project moves forward. This mine will produce 800,000 tons of clean recoverable metallurgical coal annually that will help rebuild our roads, bridges, and other critical infrastructure. This mine is a key ingredient to powering our country's infrastructure restoration. I look forward to hearing about Berwind mine's positive impact on McDowell County, I applaud this decision, and I will continue to fight for economic growth throughout our great state."

"Not only will the Berwind Mine help create jobs for West Virginians, but it will also help our state continue leading the push to improve and expand America's energy potential," **Senator Shelley Moore Capito said.** "It's great to see the public and private sectors working together to advance this project, and I appreciate the administration's continued support in promoting a true all-of-the-above energy strategy—both in West Virginia and across the country."

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Sincerely,  
Eli Nachmany  
Writer, U.S. Department of the Interior  
Office of Communications

On Mon, Jul 31, 2017 at 9:49 AM, Eli Nachmany <[eli\\_nachmany@ios.doi.gov](mailto:eli_nachmany@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Sure thing! Will do right after the 10AM politicals. Looping in Heather.

Sincerely,  
Eli Nachmany  
Writer, U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 706-9285

On Jul 31, 2017, at 9:39 AM, Willens, Todd <[todd\\_willens@ios.doi.gov](mailto:todd_willens@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Eli, below are edits to this version. Highlighted parts should be deleted. Can you send back to me after you make these. I would like to see the final before signing off. thanks.

Todd Willens  
Assistant Deputy Secretary  
Acting Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW -- MIB Room 6116  
Washington, DC 20240  
office: 202-208-6291

NOTE: *Every email I send or receive is subject to release under the Freedom of Information Act.*

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Jorjani, Daniel** <[daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov](mailto:daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov)>  
Date: Sat, Jul 29, 2017 at 9:56 AM  
Subject: Re: WV Berwind Coal Project Press Release  
To: Kevin Haugrud <[jack.haugrud@sol.doi.gov](mailto:jack.haugrud@sol.doi.gov)>, Todd Willens  
<[todd\\_willens@ios.doi.gov](mailto:todd_willens@ios.doi.gov)>, Greg Sheehan  
<[greg\\_j\\_sheehan@fws.gov](mailto:greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov)>, Casey Hammond  
<[casey\\_hammond@ios.doi.gov](mailto:casey_hammond@ios.doi.gov)>, Katharine Macgregor  
<[kate\\_macgregor@ios.doi.gov](mailto:kate_macgregor@ios.doi.gov)>  
Cc: Richard Goeken <[richard.goeken@sol.doi.gov](mailto:richard.goeken@sol.doi.gov)>, "Romanik, Peg"  
<[peg.romanik@sol.doi.gov](mailto:peg.romanik@sol.doi.gov)>, James Cason  
<[james\\_cason@ios.doi.gov](mailto:james_cason@ios.doi.gov)>

Jack: Good challenge. Adding Todd, Greg, and Casey for review purposes.  
Todd, Greg, and Casey: Please make sure that you are 10,000% comfortable with this press release. It shouldn't go forward without your approval.

Kate - Doesn't appear that OSM has a direct interest at this point, but adding you for informational purposes since OSM is one of your bureaus.

On Sat, Jul 29, 2017 at 9:47 AM, Kevin Haugrud <[jack.haugrud@sol.doi.gov](mailto:jack.haugrud@sol.doi.gov)> wrote:

The entire release is in effect touting DOI's work in breaking through the logjam on crayfish. I would think we would want and need confirmation from FWS, who will be reading this release with interest, that they agree with the characterization of events and authorizations. I don't think (b) (5)

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[REDACTED] - please provide all documents related to the review and approval by the FWS of the crayfish protection plan - that we would need to be prepared to address. So I think getting FWS from some appropriate level to confirm that they have no problem with the characterizations would be important before issuing.

----- Original Message -----

From: "Jorjani, Daniel" <[daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov](mailto:daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov)>  
Date: Sat, July 29, 2017 8:35 AM -0400  
To: Richard Goeken <[richard.goeken@sol.doi.gov](mailto:richard.goeken@sol.doi.gov)>, "Romanik, Peg" <[peg.romanik@sol.doi.gov](mailto:peg.romanik@sol.doi.gov)>, Kevin Haugrud <[jack.haugrud@sol.doi.gov](mailto:jack.haugrud@sol.doi.gov)>  
CC: James Cason <[james\\_cason@ios.doi.gov](mailto:james_cason@ios.doi.gov)>  
Subject: Re: WV Berwind Coal Project Press Release

Rick, Peg, and Jack - Can DMR and DPW take a look at the revised release?

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[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] Your thoughts are welcomed. CC'ing Jim to keep in loop. Dan

On Sat, Jul 29, 2017 at 8:32 AM, Jorjani, Daniel <[daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov](mailto:daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov)> wrote:

Can

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Jorjani, Daniel** <[daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov](mailto:daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov)>  
Date: Sat, Jul 29, 2017 at 8:31 AM  
Subject: Re: WV Berwind Coal Project Press Release  
To: Vincent Devito <[vincent\\_devito@ios.doi.gov](mailto:vincent_devito@ios.doi.gov)>, Katharine Macgregor <[kate\\_macgregor@ios.doi.gov](mailto:kate_macgregor@ios.doi.gov)>, Todd Willens <[todd\\_willens@ios.doi.gov](mailto:todd_willens@ios.doi.gov)>  
Cc: "Nachmany, Eli" <[eli\\_nachmany@ios.doi.gov](mailto:eli_nachmany@ios.doi.gov)>, Landon Davis <[landon\\_davis@ios.doi.gov](mailto:landon_davis@ios.doi.gov)>, "Newell, Russell"

<[russell\\_newell@ios.doi.gov](mailto:russell_newell@ios.doi.gov)>

Vincent - Thank you for the edits. Adding Kate and Todd for sign-off since this release implicates OSM and FWS.

Kate and Todd - POTUS will be in WV on August 3 but I want to confirm that the senior politicals in the relevant hallways have signed-off on this particular release as part of the review process. Please review at first opportunity. Thank you.

On Sat, Jul 29, 2017 at 8:29 AM, Vincent Devito <[vincent\\_devito@ios.doi.gov](mailto:vincent_devito@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Eli: Can we also incorporate this dynamic (see link to article below). Thanks.

<https://www.reuters.com/article/usa-coal-exports-idUSL1N1KJ19H>

On Jul 29, 2017, at 7:04 AM, Vincent Devito <[vincent\\_devito@ios.doi.gov](mailto:vincent_devito@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Hi,

My rewrite of the 2nd paragraph.

Although the mine is on private land, the Department of the Interior through the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has a role regarding wildlife conservation plans in conjunction with the State of West Virginia's Department of Environmental Protection. (b)(5)

Also, consider (b)(5).

This should go out NLT Monday.

Adding Tucker.

Thanks,  
Vincent

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Hey guys,  
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Department of Environmental  
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[Redacted]

"Appalachia's coal workers are at the heart of rebuilding our nation's infrastructure because we can't build if we don't access our natural resources," said **Secretary Ryan Zinke**. "Under President Trump's leadership, the Department of the Interior is dedicated to being a good partner with local communities. This administration is dedicated to streamlining permitting and approval processes, (b) (5), and empowering local employees to get work done on the front lines (b) (5)

[Redacted]  
[Redacted] The Berwind Mine is the first of many many projects that prove the Trump Administration's commitment to coal country and to good government."

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“On behalf of Secretary Zinke, it was a pleasure to meet the folks in West Virginia involved in this project and work together to resolves the issues for immediate progress,” **said Vincent DeVito, counselor to the Secretary for Energy Policy.** “This Administration's commonsense approach to reasonable regulations enables us to deliver results.”

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to new mines opening, we're seeing positive developments in coal country. The Trump Administration is committed to bringing coal jobs back, and we look forward to working together to do just that."

**West Virginia Secretary of the Department of Environmental Protection Austin Caperton said,**  
"The legislation that created the WVDEP mandates that we protect the environment 'in a manner consistent with the benefits to be derived from strong... energy-producing industries' (WV Code 22-1-1(b)(4)). We applaud all efforts at the federal level that allow us to carry out our mission and strike the proper balance."

###

--

Vincent DeVito, Esq.  
Counselor to the Secretary of Interior for Energy Policy  
Immediate Office of the Secretary  
+1.202.208.2884  
[vincent\\_devito@ios.doi.gov](mailto:vincent_devito@ios.doi.gov)

**To:** Gidley, Hogan H. EOP/WHO (b) (6)  
**Cc:** Rateike, Bradley A. EOP/WHO (b) (6); Shah, Raj S.  
EOP/WHO (b) (6); Love, Kelly A. EOP/WHO (b) (6);  
heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]; Russell Newell[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov];  
downey\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov[downey\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Laura Rigas  
**Sent:** 2017-12-16T16:04:53-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Zim Elephant Inquiry summary  
**Received:** 2017-12-16T16:05:02-05:00

Not perfect but story was updated and parts of the statement were added:

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/animalia/wp/2017/12/15/permits-for-elephant-hunting-trophies-from-zimbabwe-are-being-issued-despite-ban/>

Laura Keehner Rigas  
Communications Director  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 897-7022 cell  
@Interior

On Dec 16, 2017, at 12:30 AM, Gidley, Hogan H. EOP/WHO (b) (6) wrote:

Let me know how it goes. Thanks.

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 15, 2017, at 11:13 PM, Laura Rigas <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Thx. Heather is trying to make it stronger calling them out on literally printing news they knew was fake/inaccurate. She's trying to reach the reporter.

Laura Keehner Rigas  
Communications Director  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 897-7022 cell  
@Interior

On Dec 15, 2017, at 11:06 PM, Gidley, Hogan H. EOP/WHO (b) (6) wrote:

Yes. That's fine here.

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 15, 2017, at 10:21 PM, Laura Rigas <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Discussed with Hogan —  
F&W is contacting the reporter but already told him everything OTR and background. Need to send him a statement to make the facts clearer. You ok with:

“Despite the Post’s false and inaccurate reporting, new permits are not being issued for elephant trophies from Zimbabwe. Rather, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service only allowed imports in 2017 of those animals as legally allowed under the Obama Administration’s findings and policies. While permits have been issued between January and early November of 2017, they were only for animals legally hunted during the Obama Administration and prior to the 2014 suspension.” F&W SPX

Laura Keehner Rigas  
Communications Director  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 897-7022 cell  
@Interior

On Dec 15, 2017, at 10:01 PM, Gidley, Hogan H. EOP/WHO  
(b) (6) wrote:

We’ll get more but I feel like y’all should call this reporter directly and get him/her to make edits. And correct the record. OFF THE RECORD. but give a version of the quote below of asked. But before y’all do on the record we need to discuss further. Can y’all call them?

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 15, 2017, at 9:59 PM, Laura Rigas  
<[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)>  
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Thx. They have not  
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We are just hitting  
back to get them to  
correct it. And  
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inquiries. No other  
inquiries so far.

Laura Keehner Rigas  
Communications Director  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 897-7022 cell  
@Interior

On Dec 15, 2017, at 9:56 PM, Gidley, Hogan H.  
EOP/WHO

(b) (6)  
wrote:

Edits.  
In caps  
(except  
for  
deletio  
ns)  
Thoug  
hts?  
Also,  
have  
they  
asked  
anyone  
for a  
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If not,  
let's  
hold  
for  
now. If

they  
have  
asked  
for a  
quote  
we can  
discuss

Sent from my iPhone

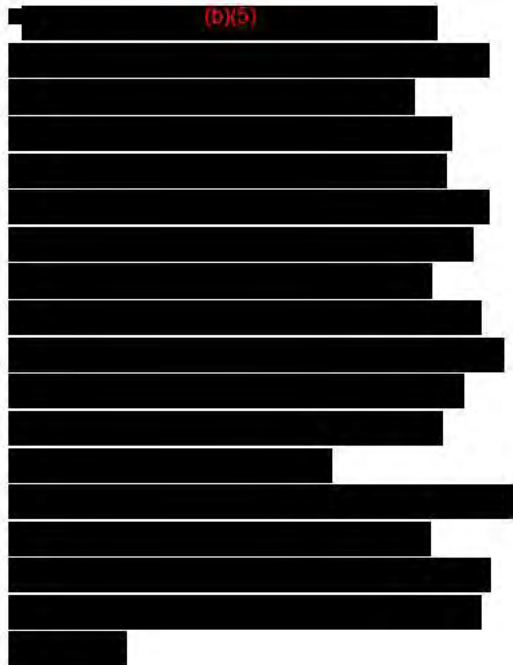
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(b)(5)



Laura Kehner Rigas  
Communications Director  
U.S. Department of the Interior

(202) 897-7022 cell  
@Interior

On Dec 15, 2017, at 8:31 PM, Gidley, Hogan  
H. EOP/WHO

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"suspension" not ban - is still in place...  
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Laura Keehner Rigas  
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service folks responded to a Washington Post inquiry about elephants in Zimbabwe without giving us a heads up.

See below for the information. Here's a link to the website which has the FOIA'd information: >>>>><https://friendsofanimals.org/news/feds-secretly-issued-zimbabwe-elephant-trophy-permits/><<<<<<;;. We were not aware of the FOIA or it going out either.

Will keep you posted as/if we hear more on this. Tonight we have made it very clear to the F&W comms folks that any and all media responses must be run past us first and that we must alerted to any inquiry immediately no matter the time of day/weekend.

Need anything else from us now?

Thanks,  
L

Laura Keehner Rigas  
Communications Director  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 897-7022 cell  
@Interior

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Shire,  
Gavin"  
<[gavin\\_shire@fws.gov](mailto:gavin_shire@fws.gov)>  
**Date:** December 15,  
2017 at 6:13:14 PM  
EST  
**To:** Laura Rigas  
<[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)>, Heather  
Swift  
<[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)>, Barbara  
Wainman  
<[barbara\\_wainman@fws.gov](mailto:barbara_wainman@fws.gov)>, Greg  
Sheehan  
<[greg\\_j\\_sheehan@fws.gov](mailto:greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov)>  
**Subject: Zim  
Elephant Inquiry  
summary**

Friends of Animals made a Freedom of Information Act inquiry regarding permits issued for import of Elephant trophies from Zimbabwe. They received from the program and have now posted to their website the names (and cities and states) of 16 people who received import permits after the negative finding was issued. They concluded (erroneously) that we had violated our own negative

finding by issuing these permits. Darryl Fears with the Washington Post called to ask about this issue and so we quickly researched the FOIA results. It turns out that 15 of the 16 permits were issued legitimately because they were all for elephants that were hunted prior to the the embargo being enforced by the negative finding. If FoA had called us first to ask us about this, we would have explained it to them. The 16th permit was issued in error (it was a trophy shot in Zimbabwe that was being routed through South Africa, our permit folks thought the elephant was shot in South Africa); it is being rescinded.

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would talk to his editor and we are waiting to see the outcome.

G

Gavin Shire  
Chief of Public Affairs  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife  
Service  
MS: EA  
5275 Leesburg Pike  
Falls Church, VA 22041-  
3803  
703-358-2649 (o)  
703-346-9123 (c)  
[gavin\\_shire@fws.gov](mailto:gavin_shire@fws.gov)

**To:** Gidley, Hogan H. EOP/WHO (b) (6) ]  
**Cc:** Rateike, Bradley A. EOP/WHO (b) (6) Shah, Raj S.  
EOP/WHO (b) (6) Love, Kelly A. EOP/WHO (b) (6)  
heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]; Russell Newell[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov];  
downey\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov[downey\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Laura Rigas  
**Sent:** 2017-12-15T22:03:08-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Zim Elephant Inquiry summary  
**Received:** 2017-12-15T22:03:12-05:00

Yes.

Laura Keehner Rigas  
Communications Director  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 897-7022 cell  
@Interior

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Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 15, 2017, at 9:59 PM, Laura Rigas <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Thx. They have not asked for a quote, We are just hitting back to get them to correct it. And expecting more inquiries. No other inquiries so far.

Laura Keehner Rigas  
Communications Director  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 897-7022 cell  
@Interior

On Dec 15, 2017, at 9:56 PM, Gidley, Hogan H. EOP/WHO  
(b) (6) wrote:

Edits. In caps (except for deletions) Thoughts? Also,

have they asked anyone for a quote? If not, let's hold for now. If they have asked for a quote we can discuss.

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 15, 2017, at 9:30 PM, Laura Rigas <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Here's what we propose from our career SPX at F&W. Edits? They will send to the Post on your ok.

(b)(5)  
[Redacted text block]

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@Interior

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Communications Director  
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Hi all,  
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nately  
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up.

See below for the information. Here's a link to the  
websit  
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which  
has the  
FOIA'  
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ation:  
[https://friendsof  
animals.org/n  
ews/fe](https://friendsofanimals.org/news/fe)



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[we-](#)  
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or it  
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either.

Will keep you posted as/if we hear more on this.

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Need anything else from us now?

Thanks,

L

Laura Keehner Rigas  
Communications Director  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 897-7022 cell  
@Interior

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Shire, Gavin"

<[gavin\\_shire@fws.gov](mailto:gavin_shire@fws.gov)>

**Date:** December 15, 2017 at 6:13:14 PM EST

**To:** Laura Rigas <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)>,  
Heather Swift <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)>,  
Barbara Wainman

<[barbara\\_wainman@fws.gov](mailto:barbara_wainman@fws.gov)>, Greg

Sheehan <[greg\\_j\\_sheehan@fws.gov](mailto:greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov)>

**Subject: Zim Elephant Inquiry summary**

Friends of Animals made a Freedom of Information Act inquiry regarding permits issued for import of Elephant trophies from Zimbabwe. They received from the program and have now posted to their website the names (and cities and states) of 16 people who received import permits after the negative finding was issued. They concluded (erroneously) that we had violated our own negative finding by issuing these permits.

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G

Gavin Shire  
Chief of Public Affairs  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
MS: EA  
5275 Leesburg Pike  
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803  
703-358-2649 (o)  
703-346-9123 (c)  
[gavin\\_shire@fws.gov](mailto:gavin_shire@fws.gov)

**To:** Laura Rigas[laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Rateike, Bradley A. EOP/(b) (6)]; Shah, Raj S. EOP/WHO(b) (6)]; Love, Kelly A. EOP/WHO(b) (6)]; heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]; Russell Newell[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov]; downey\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov[downey\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Gidley, Hogan H. EOP/WHO  
**Sent:** 2017-12-15T20:25:35-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Zim Elephant Inquiry summary  
**Received:** 2017-12-15T20:25:49-05:00

Thanks.

Sent from my iPhone

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U.S. Department of the Interior  
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Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Shire, Gavin" <[gavin\\_shire@fws.gov](mailto:gavin_shire@fws.gov)>  
**Date:** December 15, 2017 at 6:13:14 PM EST  
**To:** Laura Rigas <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)>, Heather Swift  
<[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)>, Barbara Wainman  
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## G

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MS: EA  
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Falls Church, VA 22041-3803  
703-358-2649 (o)  
703-346-9123 (c)  
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**Cc:** Rateike, Bradley A. EOP/WHO (b) (6) Shah, Raj S.  
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heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]; Russell Newell[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov];  
downey\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov[downey\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Laura Rigas  
**Sent:** 2017-12-15T19:00:26-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Zim Elephant Inquiry summary  
**Received:** 2017-12-15T19:00:30-05:00

Thx. We don't yet know if the Post will write on this so pls keep us posted if they reach out to you.

Laura Keehner Rigas  
Communications Director  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 897-7022 cell  
@Interior

On Dec 15, 2017, at 6:58 PM, Gidley, Hogan H. EOP/WHO <(b) (6)> wrote:

Thanks for the heads up.

Sent from my iPhone

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**Date:** December 15, 2017 at 6:13:14 PM EST  
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<[barbara\\_wainman@fws.gov](mailto:barbara_wainman@fws.gov)>, Greg Sheehan  
<[greg\\_j\\_sheehan@fws.gov](mailto:greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov)>  
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**To:** Michael Nedd[mike\_nedd@blm.gov]; John Ruhs[jruhs@blm.gov]; Kathleen Benedetto[kbenedetto@blm.gov]; Cally Younger[cyounger@blm.gov]; Brian Steed[bsteed@blm.gov]  
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**From:** Krauss, Jeff  
**Sent:** 2017-10-03T20:53:04-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Readout of Washington Post interview with BLM Staff re: NEPA Streamlining  
**Received:** 2017-10-03T20:53:17-04:00

Mike, John, Cally, Kathy and Brian,

Below is the readout on the *Washington Post* interview with BLM WO Staff:

Yesterday evening *Washington Post* reporter Darryl Fears interviewed Leah Baker, BLM Division Chief of Decision Support, Planning and NEPA, and Cynthia Moses-Nedd, DOI Liaison to State and Local Governments about the planning report that is being finalized for Secretary Zinke on streamlining the planning and NEPA processes in the agency. Fears said that he had been given notes from a recent webinar the BLM held that raised some concerns and he wanted to ask about them. Baker and Moses-Nedd provided extensive background on this effort and the reasons it was requested. He did provide the person's identity, but did indicate it was a person who had been invited to attend the webinar.

He said that some organizations and people are taking this effort as an assault on NEPA and FOIA. Moses-Nedd told him that the goal is in line with these and other current laws and is an effort to improve the processes and build efficiencies within those various laws. He was told that the ideas raised were not an attempt to circumvent or weaken any laws.

The two told Fears about the BLM's legal requirement to closely coordinate with state, local and tribal governments in BLM's planning process and to strive for consistency with state and local land use plans.

In response to his questions, Baker highlighted what BLM heard on the webinar and in its conversations with local and state government, such as the perception that that BLM hasn't been as strong in its coordination as it could be. Fears also asked questions about concerns that the streamlining exercise could undermine ESA. Baker explained that the streamlining effort looked at the ways that the BLM could coordinate with FWS on priority projects, such as infrastructure development, to ensure section 7 consultation is as efficient as possible. He also questioned potential changes to the Equal Access to Justice Act (EAJA). Leah and Cynthia explained some of the perceptions of both laws by state and local government officials including perceived uses of EAJA payments to fund lawsuits against the BLM.

He also asked about specific recommendations that are contained in the report, to which BLM responded that the report has not yet been delivered or read by the Secretary, so could not discuss specifics.

Fears asked about what is perceived as a "higher status" being afforded to local government officials that gives them a "seat at the table." In response, Leah and Cynthia also discussed cooperating agency status under NEPA and coordination under FLPMA highlighting that the laws that apply to special status groups, such as local, state and government partners and grants them that seat at the table as elected representatives in their communities.

Fears told us that he appreciated being able to talk to Baker and Moses-Nedd because it gave him a different perspective and helped answer some of the concerns raised to him. We expect the article to present both the concerns raised to him and our responses. While it won't likely be an out-and-out positive story, it is clear that it will be a much better article had we not spoken with him. The article is due tomorrow, but he said it is unlikely to run until the weekend due to the events in Las Vegas.

**To:** Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Howarth, Robert  
**Sent:** 2017-11-27T17:25:57-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** redline  
**Received:** 2017-11-27T17:25:59-05:00  
[In this season of peace and thanksgiving.docx](#)

Hi Heather...attached suggested redline.

Rob

--

Robert Howarth  
Deputy Director for Correspondence and FOIA Management  
Office of the Executive Secretariat and Regulatory Affairs  
Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20240  
202-208-3181  
202-208-4451 (direct)  
202-549-8961 (cell)

**To:** heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Michael Spies  
**Sent:** 2017-09-13T12:14:19-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Reporter Reaching Out Re: FOIA Docs I Just Received  
**Received:** 2017-09-13T12:15:24-04:00

Hi, Heather. My name is Mike Spies, and I'm a senior reporter at The Trace ([thetrace.org](http://thetrace.org)), which is an investigative reporting site that covers the gun issue. We co-publish our stories with a number of prominent news outlets, including the New Yorker, Rolling Stone, and Politico Magazine. I'm working on a story about Susan LaPierre's appointment to the National Park Foundation's board of directors. Today I received a dozen emails (through FOIA) from the Interior Department concerning her appointment, and I'd like to discuss them with you as soon as possible. Please call me at (b) (6)

Thanks,  
Mike

**To:** Interior Press[interior\_press@ios.doi.gov]; Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Anthony Adragna[aadragna@politico.com]  
**From:** Esther Whieldon  
**Sent:** 2017-07-25T14:37:14-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Request for comment: DOI/DOC Monument comment sharing  
**Received:** 2017-07-25T14:37:28-04:00  
[072417\\_DOI FOIA Response.pdf](#)  
[Rose Atoll 1-export-20170706-013252.csv](#)

The Center for American Progress claims that FOIA'd records show that Interior has passed along less than 500 copies of comments to the Commerce Department referencing the marine monuments but the group says that more than a half a million comments submitted to Interior actually mentioned the marine monuments. Interior said in the Federal Register notice that people shouldn't duplicate comments between the agencies because DOI would share what it received.

Please comment on this, including the extent to which the Interior passed along information to the Commerce Department in this review. Are you planning on sending more over?

Thanks, Esther

**To:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]; Hinson, Alex[alex\_hinson@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Davis, Natalie  
**Sent:** 2017-09-13T11:51:15-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** request from reporter  
**Received:** 2017-09-13T11:52:17-04:00

Hi Heather.

A guy named Mike from Trace.org just called me regarding LaPierre and her appointment to NPF. I guess he had questions regarding one of my emails from a FOIA request he had submitted.

I told him to reach out to you guys. His number is (b) (6).

Thanks,  
Natalie

--

Natalie Davis  
Special Assistant to the Secretary  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
202.208.4928

**To:** Daniel Jorjani[daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov]; Peg Romanik[peg.romanik@sol.doi.gov]; Louise Milkman[louise.milkman@sol.doi.gov]; Rice, Bryan[bryan\_rice@ios.doi.gov]; Leff, Craig[Craig\_Leff@ios.doi.gov]; Harry Humbert[harry\_humbert@ios.doi.gov]; Scott Cameron[scott\_cameron@ios.doi.gov]; Katharine MacGregor[katharine\_macgregor@ios.doi.gov]; Todd Willens[todd\_willens@ios.doi.gov]; Micah Chambers[micah\_chambers@ios.doi.gov]; Rigas, Laura[laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov]; Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]; Michael Black[mike.black@bia.gov]; Downey Magallanes[downey\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** David Mihalic[david\_mihalic@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Howarth, Robert  
**Sent:** 2017-09-08T12:28:02-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Request Immediate Surname - Wildland Fire  
**Received:** 2017-09-08T12:28:08-04:00  
[Fuels Treatment SecMemo Final Draft3 - OES edit 9-8-17.docx](#)

Hello all. Attached for your review and surname is a memorandum to be signed by the Secretary. Regrettably, I am on a very tight schedule! Secretary expects to sign this today.

Please review the "To list" to make sure all managers have been included in the memorandum.

My understanding that many of you have been involved in the development of this document.

Any specific questions, please direct them to David Mihalic (cc'd here) at (202) 208-4130/(b) (6) (cell).

**Please respond to this email with your surname today by 3:30 pm--NO LATER.**

Regards, Rob

--

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**To:** heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Marjorie Pritchard[marjorie.pritchard@globe.com]  
**From:** Clegg, Ellen  
**Sent:** 2017-11-25T12:30:32-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Response from the Boston Globe Editorial Page  
**Received:** 2017-11-25T12:30:45-05:00

Heather,

Marjorie Pritchard shared your email with me. The Globe's editorial represents an opinion based on reporting in other media outlets, on document research, and on interviews with sources. Much of the source material – reporting by the New York Times, the Washington Post, and POLITICO – was linked in the piece. Reports by Reuters, the Chicago Tribune, and the Associated Press were also reviewed. We do not intend to retract our opinion; you are welcome to write a letter to the editor to rebut The Globe's institutional position.

Whitefish Energy does in fact have ties to Secretary Zinke. As Richard Perez-Pena reported in the New York Times on Oct. 27, 2017, Secretary Zinke and Andy Techmanski, the chief executive of Whitefish Energy, know each other, and the secretary's son worked on a Whitefish job over the summer.

POLITICO reviewed records from Interior made public after a FOIA by The Western Values Project that documented last-minute requests from Lola Zinke related to travel and high-level dinners. It is our opinion, legitimately drawn, that these requests caused extra work for staffers and, as the editorial noted (and as POLITICO's Ben Lefebvre reported on Nov. 21, 2017) raised questions about misuse of government resources. Washington Post reporters Lisa Rein and Drew Harwell reported on Nov. 16, 2017 that Deputy Inspector General Mary Kendall sent the secretary's office an alert that her investigation into allegations of improper travel has been stymied by "absent or incomplete documentation for several pertinent trips." This memo stated that Interior Department officials have not shown evidence that they have been able to "distinguish between personal, political and official travel" or cost-analysis documents to justify his choice of military or charter flights, according to the Post's reporting on Kendall's alert.

This same Kendall memo shows that the travel of Lola Zinke is also being reviewed; according to the Post, "Kendall wrote that the department's documentation was so lacking that investigators cannot determine 'the full extent' of her travel and how it was paid for." In addition to the last-minute requests reported by POLITICO, this very investigation of Lola Zinke's travel constitutes a burden on government resources, in the Globe's opinion. When that investigation concludes, please let us know.

Harwell and Rein also reported in the Post on Sept. 28, 2017: “Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke chartered a flight from Las Vegas to near his home in Montana this summer aboard a plane owned by oil-and-gas executives, internal documents show. The flight, along with private flights during a trip to the Virgin Islands, could propel Zinke into the growing debate over the costs of travel by Cabinet secretaries, some of whom have chosen expensive charter jets and military planes at high expense to taxpayers over the cheaper option of flying commercial.” That flight, from Las Vegas to Kalispell, cost taxpayers \$12,375, according to an Interior Department spokeswoman (and I assume that spokeswoman is you, and that you were correctly quoted.) Commercial flights are much cheaper.

The use of the term “cleaned house” is a legitimately drawn opinion based on facts reported by the New York Times about Interior staff reassignments. On July 25, 2017, Coral Davenport and Nicholas Fandos of the Times reported:

“Between 7 and 8 p.m. on June 15, at least two dozen senior career officials at the Interior Department received emails informing them that they would be reassigned to new positions. While it is not unusual for new administrations to make personnel moves, some of the transferred employees said the moves appeared intended to undermine the department’s work on environmental priorities.” The story continues:

“Joel Clement, a climate change expert, received an email reassigning him to a position in an office overseeing fees and royalties from fossil fuel drilling. ‘I’m the climate change guy, and they moved me to the accounting office that collects fossil fuel royalties,’ said Mr. Clement, who went public with his complaints in a Washington Post opinion article last week. ‘They couldn’t have found a job less suited for me, or that sent a clearer signal that they were trying to get me to quit.’

“On Monday, Senator Maria Cantwell of Washington, the ranking Democrat on the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, sent a letter to the Interior Department’s deputy inspector general, calling for an investigation into the personnel moves.

“The appointments and the policies have drawn cheers from the oil industry. ‘You’re hearing a desire to promote oil and natural gas opportunities on all lands, and on federal lands,’ said Erik Milito, the director of upstream issues for the American Petroleum Institute, which lobbies for oil companies. ‘And doing so on federal lands is a great way to bring in more revenue.’”

On Nov. 20, 2017, Anne Gearan of the Washington Post reported that President Trump called elephant hunting a “horror show” and “strongly suggested he will permanently block imports of elephant trophies from two African nations despite his administration’s earlier approval of the practice.” That story said: “Following strong bipartisan criticism of the administration’s decision to allow imports of trophy carcasses for the first time since the practice was halted under the Obama administration, Trump had moved Friday to put the imports on hold.” This followed an initial story by Darryl Fears and Juliet Eilperin of the Post on Nov. 17, 2017, headlined: “Trophies from elephant hunts in Zimbabwe were banned in the US; Trump just reversed that”

Like the Post story, our editorial characterized the import of trophies from Zimbabwe and Zambia as a reversal of a ban under President Obama. Our editorial opinion is reasonable, given the fact base. Under the Obama administration, elephant hunting trophies were allowed in South Africa, as you mention, because USFWS determined that South Africa had proved its management of elephants enhanced the endangered population. In 2015, the Obama administration determined that Zimbabwe had not provided sufficient proof and halted such imports.

Finally, illegal ivory sales in Massachusetts involve both imported trophies from hunts, as well as ivory from illegal poaching. There are concerns at the state level, in Massachusetts and elsewhere, about this trade in ivory objects, its impact on conservation of the endangered African elephant, and its role in funding terror in African nations. Ivory is often sold on Craigslist without clear provenance; the Massachusetts bills in the state legislature would address the sale of ivory acquired by any means.

You observe that the Obama administration racked up bills for charter flights, and attribute other failings to Obama’s leadership of the Interior Department. But the Trump administration took office 11 months ago vowing to “drain the swamp” – which a reasonable mind might interpret as putting an end to some of these practices. It is our editorial opinion that the current leadership of the Interior Department is continuing these questionable travel practices, making partisan staff changes without regard to individual expertise, and sending confusing signals on import of elephant trophies. We do not intend to retract our editorial opinion, but we would consider a letter to the editor; letters should be addressed to [Matthew.Bernstein@globe.com](mailto:Matthew.Bernstein@globe.com). If Secretary Zinke would be interested in writing an op-ed piece on how he intends to protect national parks and national monuments in an era when there is a call for expanded oil and gas exploration on federal lands, kindly send a draft to Marjorie Pritchard, whose email you have.

Sincerely,

Ellen Clegg

Editorial Page Editor

The Boston Globe

Office: [617-929-3339](tel:617-929-3339)

**To:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** karmen\_young@ios.doi.gov  
**Sent:** 2017-11-17T17:32:14-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Search Request OS-2018-00127  
**Received:** 2017-11-17T17:33:02-05:00  
[18-00127qa.pdf](#)  
[FOIA Control Form \(4.8.16\).pdf](#)

OS FOIA has received a Freedom of Information Act request for which we believe your Office may have responsive materials. Please use the below chart, attached copy of the FOIA request, and attached FOIA Control Form to inform us of your search efforts.

- **If available, please provide responsive documents to OS FOIA electronically (CD, FOIA DMU Processing Application, email, or thumb drive). Please note that Bison Connect can pull emails electronically with the DMU Processing App's and OS staff can assist with this tool. Please contact OS FOIA if electronic documents are not available.**
- **Please track the time required to search for these documents on the attached control form.**
- **If you have any questions regarding the specific guidance on copying, reviewing, and submitting documents to the OS FOIA office, please call 202-513-0765.**

<b>Please reply/send all items to <a href="mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov">osfoia@ios.doi.gov</a> - Except "FOIA/DMU Processing Tool" searches</b> (Please include <a href="mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov">osfoia@ios.doi.gov</a> on all communications/discussions regarding this FOIA request.)	
<b>Action Office:</b> Office of the Secretary	<b>Responsible Program Office:</b> OCO
<b>Current Date:</b> 11/17/2017	<b>Due Date:</b> 12/1/17
<b>FOIA Request Control Number:</b> OS-2018-00127	<b>OS FOIA Contact (MIB 7328):</b> Cindy Sweeney
<b>Requester's Name:</b> Chris Saeger	<b>Amount Requester Is Willing To Pay:</b> Requested Fee Waiver

--

Department of the Interior  
Office of the Secretary, FOIA Office  
1849 C Street, NW, MS-7328  
Washington, D.C. 20240  
[os\\_foia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:os_foia@ios.doi.gov)  
(202) 513-0765 - phone  
(202) 219-2374 - fax

**To:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** karmen\_young@ios.doi.gov  
**Sent:** 2017-10-24T16:44:44-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Search Request: FOIA Requests OS-2017-01099  
**Received:** 2017-10-24T16:45:32-04:00  
[17-01099qa.pdf](#)  
[FOIA Control Form \(4.8.16\).pdf](#)

OS FOIA has received a Freedom of Information Act request for which we believe your Office may have responsive materials. Please use the below chart, attached copy of the FOIA request, and attached FOIA Control Form to inform us of your search efforts.

- **If available, please provide responsive documents to OS FOIA electronically (CD, FOIA DMU Processing Application, email, or thumb drive). Please note that Bison Connect can pull emails electronically with the DMU Processing App's and OS staff can assist with this tool. Please contact OS FOIA if electronic documents are not available.**
- **Please track the time required to search for these documents on the attached control form.**
- **If you have any questions regarding the specific guidance on copying, reviewing, and submitting documents to the OS FOIA office, please call 202-513-0765.**

<b>Please reply/send all items to <a href="mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov">osfoia@ios.doi.gov</a> - Except "FOIA/DMU Processing Tool" searches</b> (Please include <a href="mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov">osfoia@ios.doi.gov</a> on all communications/discussions regarding this FOIA request.)	
<b>Action Office:</b> <b>Office of the Secretary</b>	<b>Responsible Program Office:</b> <b>OCO</b>
<b>Current Date:</b> <b>10/24/2017</b>	<b>Due Date:</b> <b>11/7/17</b>
<b>FOIA Request Control Number:</b> <b>OS-2017-01099</b>	<b>OS FOIA Contact (MIB 7328):</b> <b>Cindy Sweeney</b>
<b>Requester's Name:</b> <b>Lauren Dillon</b>	<b>Amount Requester Is Willing To Pay:</b> <b>Fee Waiver Requested</b>

--  
 Department of the Interior  
 Office of the Secretary, FOIA Office  
 1849 C Street, NW, MS-7328  
 Washington, D.C. 20240  
[os\\_foia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:os_foia@ios.doi.gov)  
 (202) 513-0765 - phone  
 (202) 219-2374 - fax

**To:** Interior Press[interior\_press@ios.doi.gov]; Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Esther Whieldon  
**Sent:** 2017-11-03T12:46:23-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Secretarial calendar page down  
**Received:** 2017-11-03T12:46:51-04:00

Interior's FOIA page with all the secretarial calendars appears to have been taken down but it doesn't seem any of the other FOIA pages have been taken down. Why is that? Thanks, Esther

Esther Whieldon

Reporter

POLITICO

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703-672-2788 (office)

ewhieldon@politico.com

Twitter: [@esthernow](https://twitter.com/esthernow)



**To:** Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]; Interior Press[interior\_press@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Esther Whieldon  
**Sent:** 2017-10-31T14:28:28-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Seeking copies of Interior's letter and records to Gowdy  
**Received:** 2017-10-31T14:36:19-04:00  
[2017-10-20-TG-to-4-Agencies-Federal-Records-Act-Followup-Non-Compliant....pdf](#)

Hi Heather,

Would you please send me a copy of the letters and records provided to House Oversight Committee Chairman Trey Gowdy regarding flights involving senior officials at the Interior? I see Gowdy sent a letter on Oct. 20 asking to get the full records from Interior by Oct. 27th or the agency would face a subpoena for the materials on Nov. 3. See attached.

Thanks, Esther

Esther Whieldon  
Reporter  
POLITICO  
(b) (6) (mobile)  
703-672-2788 (office)  
ewhieldon@politico.com  
Twitter: [@esthernow](#)

**To:** Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Howarth, Robert  
**Sent:** 2017-09-19T16:00:20-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Signed letters  
**Received:** 2017-09-19T16:01:23-04:00  
[Signed Cahill.pdf](#)

Let's try that again!

Rob

--

Robert Howarth  
Deputy Director for Correspondence and FOIA Management  
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Washington, DC 20240  
202-208-3181  
202-208-4451 (direct)  
202-549-8961 (cell)

**To:** Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Willens, Todd[todd\_willens@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Howarth, Robert  
**Sent:** 2017-09-15T11:07:19-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Signed SO  
**Received:** 2017-09-15T11:07:28-04:00  
[Signed SO 3356.pdf](#)

--

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Deputy Director for Correspondence and FOIA Management  
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Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20240  
202-208-3181  
202-208-4451 (direct)  
202-549-8961 (cell)

**To:** Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Laura Rigas[laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov]; Newell, Russell[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Moody, Joan  
**Sent:** 2018-01-02T17:32:14-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Timely RE: Interview with National Geographic on Indian Arts  
**Received:** 2018-01-02T17:32:21-05:00

.Happy New Year all. Forgive me if you already answered this request from IACB but I can't find a reply. Meredith of Interior's Indian Arts and Crafts Board is asking again if she should tell NG she is waiting to hear from OCO or that she can do the interview NG requested a month ago. I don't see any downside to the interview but Heather could sit in if desired, Joan

*Joan Moody*  
*Senior Public Affairs Specialist*  
*Office of the Secretary MIB 6226*  
*U.S. Department of the Interior*  
*1849 C Street, N.W.*  
*Washington, D.C. 20240*  
*202-208-3280*  
[Joan\\_Moody@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Joan_Moody@ios.doi.gov)

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** **Moody, Joan** <[joan\\_moody@ios.doi.gov](mailto:joan_moody@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Date:** Tue, Dec 19, 2017 at 12:28 PM  
**Subject:** Fwd: Possible National Geographic article on violations of Indian Arts & Crafts Act  
**To:** Heather Swift <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)>

Meredith asked if she can tell the National Geo reporter that she is waiting to hear from Communications, Could she instead go ahead with the interview?

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** **Moody, Joan** <[joan\\_moody@ios.doi.gov](mailto:joan_moody@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Date:** Fri, Dec 15, 2017 at 3:00 PM  
**Subject:** Possible National Geographic article on violations of Indian Arts & Crafts Act  
**To:** Heather Swift <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Cc:** Laura Rigas <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)>, "Newell, Russell" <[russell\\_newell@ios.doi.gov](mailto:russell_newell@ios.doi.gov)>

Heather--I know you have been very busy and may not have had time to review this yet, but I think (b) (5)

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Because it turns out that this reporter is writing for National Geographic, I also would recommend either (b) (5)

[REDACTED]

*Joan Moody  
Senior Public Affairs Specialist  
Office of the Secretary MIB 6226  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20240  
202-208-3280  
[Joan\\_Moody@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Joan_Moody@ios.doi.gov)*

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Stanton, Meridith** <[meridith\\_stanton@ios.doi.gov](mailto:meridith_stanton@ios.doi.gov)>  
Date: Thu, Dec 14, 2017 at 1:03 PM  
Subject: Re: Seeking your recommendation regarding reporter Maraya Cornell  
To: "Moody, Joan" <[joan\\_moody@ios.doi.gov](mailto:joan_moody@ios.doi.gov)>  
Cc: Heather Swift <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)>

Hi Joan and Heather,  
In answer to Joan's questions --

### **Ms. Cornell's Publication**

It is my understanding that Ms. Cornell has been and is working on an in depth article regarding the Operation Al Zuni investigation into widespread violations of the Indian Arts and Crafts Act for the National Geographic magazine.

### **Indian Arts and Crafts Act**

It is a violation of the Indian Arts and Crafts Act (Act) to display, offer for sale, or sell any art or craft work as Indian, Alaska Native, or the product of a particular Indian tribe unless the maker meets the definition of Indian under the Act, <https://www.doi.gov/iacb/act>. The Indian Arts and Crafts Board is responsible for implementation of the Act, which is a truth in marketing law that carries both criminal and civil penalties. The Senate Committee on Indian Affairs held a field hearing on modernizing the Act on July 7, 2017, <https://www.indian.senate.gov/hearing/oversight-field-hearing-cultural-sovereignty-series-modernizing-indian-arts-and-crafts-act>, and senior staffers for Committee Chairman Senator John Hoeven were present at the hearing.

### **Article Following Her Last Discussion with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) Office of Law Enforcement (LE)?**

To the best of my knowledge, Ms. Cornell did not write an article after her discussion with FWS LE Special Agent in Charge Nick Chavez about a month ago.

### **October 2017 Cornell Writing**

However, I did find the following today from October 2017.

<https://medium.com/@maraya/prosecutions-in-operation-al-zuni-cases-930824942c18>

### **Operation Al Zuni DOJ Press Releases**

Information on the Operation Al Zuni investigation into violations of the Act is available from the following DOJ-District of NM press releases. Please note work on this wide spread investigation is *on-going*.

<https://www.justice.gov/usao-nm/pr/owner-old-town-albuquerque-jewelry-stores-pleads-guilty-fraudulently-selling-filipino>

<https://www.justice.gov/usao-nm/pr/federal-grand-jury-indicts-five-connection-international-scheme-fraudulently-import-and>

<https://www.justice.gov/usao-nm/pr/three-new-mexicans-charged-fraudulently-selling-filipino-made-jewelry-native-american>

### **Indian Arts and Crafts Board and the FWS LE**

Under an Indian Arts and Crafts Board/FWS Memorandum of Agreement and Reimbursable Support Agreement, the FWS LE investigates Act cases on behalf of the Indian Arts and Crafts Board.

(b) (7)(A)

### **Secretary Zinke's Press Release**

Yes, the Secretary provided the following public service announcement on the Act.

<https://www.doi.gov/iacb/secretary-zinke-promotes-indian-artists>

If you need any further information, please let me know.

I will wait to hear from you before responding to Ms. Cornell.

Thank you,

Meridith

On Thu, Dec 14, 2017 at 12:05 PM, Moody, Joan <[joan\\_moody@ios.doi.gov](mailto:joan_moody@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Hi, Meridith,

I am copying the Secretary's press secretary, Heather Swift, to see how she wants to handle this. Before she decides, would you please send us the name of the publication for which Cornell is reporting, whether she wrote after her interview with the FWS agent, and background and on the Operation Al Zuni case and what has been your involvement to date of the IACB, FWS and/or BIA? Heather, I would be glad to sit in on the interview if desired as the Indian Arts and Crafts Board is part of my portfolio under PMB. Remember the Secretary did that great PSA for Meredith early in his term.

*Joan Moody*  
*Senior Public Affairs Specialist*  
*Office of the Secretary MIB 6226*  
*U.S. Department of the Interior*  
*1849 C Street, N.W.*  
*Washington, D.C. 20240*  
*202-208-3280*  
[Joan\\_Moody@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Joan_Moody@ios.doi.gov)

On Thu, Dec 14, 2017 at 11:22 AM, Stanton, Meridith <[meridith\\_stanton@ios.doi.gov](mailto:meridith_stanton@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Hi Joan,  
Per Megan's email, can I please run this by you? Or would you prefer I discuss Ms. Cornell's request with one of your Office of Communications colleagues?

Thank you,

Meridith

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Olsen, Megan** <[megan\\_olsen@ios.doi.gov](mailto:megan_olsen@ios.doi.gov)>

Date: Thu, Dec 14, 2017 at 8:40 AM

Subject: Re: Seeking your recommendation regarding reporter Maraya Cornell

To: "Stanton, Meridith" <[meridith\\_stanton@ios.doi.gov](mailto:meridith_stanton@ios.doi.gov)>

Hey, Meridith! Please reach out to the Communications Office before replying to the reporter.

They can give the best guidance on whether to respond, whether they want to be present for the conversation, etc.

Thanks for checking!

Megan Olsen  
Director, Office of Acquisition and Property Management  
Department of the Interior  
1849 C. Street NW, Room 4257  
Washington, DC 20240  
202-513-0692

On Wed, Dec 13, 2017 at 2:53 PM, Stanton, Meridith <[meridith\\_stanton@ios.doi.gov](mailto:meridith_stanton@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Hi Megan,

On Monday while I was (b) (6) Maraya Cornell, the reporter who submitted a FOIA request that Olivia emailed about on October 12, sent an email asking if I had time to speak with her this week. She said it was with regards to the FWS Law Enforcement's Indian Arts and Crafts Act Operation Al Zuni Case.

Now that I have returned from (b) (6), I reached out today to FWS Special Agent in Charge Nick Chavez to ask if he had recently spoken with Ms. Cornell. SAC Chavez told me that he spoke with her about a month ago, and suggested I call Ms. Cornell back to find out what she wants.

Before I get back to Ms. Cornell, given Olivia's earlier email, I thought I would first run this by you to ask if you would like me to 1) speak directly with Ms. Cornell, 2) ask the Secretary's Communications Office to join me on the call with Ms. Cornell, or 3) refer her to the Secretary's Communications Office.

Best Regards,

Meridith

--

Meridith Z. Stanton  
Director  
Indian Arts and Crafts Board  
Office of the Secretary  
MS 2528-MIB  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
Washington, D.C. 20240  
202-208-3773 (main)  
202-208-3889 (direct)  
1-888-Art-Fake (toll free)  
202-208-5196 (fax)

CONFIDENTIALITY/SENSITIVITY NOTICE:

This message is intended exclusively for the individual or entity to which it is addressed. This



communication may contain information that is law enforcement sensitive, proprietary, privileged, confidential and may be legally protected or otherwise exempt from disclosure. This message may be forwarded by the addressee, as appropriate, to further disseminate law enforcement sensitive information to the field, as needed. If you have received this message in error, please notify the sender immediately by email and delete all copies of the message.

**To:** heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov[laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov];  
downey\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov[downey\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Robert Howarth (via Google Drive)  
**Sent:** 2017-12-29T16:09:18-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Travel Packages - Invitation to collaborate  
**Received:** 2017-12-29T16:09:23-05:00

robert\_howarth@ios.doi.gov has invited you to **contribute to** the following shared folder:

## Travel Packages

These are the records (minus the Solicitor guidance docs) that will be posted today on the OS FOIA website. Due to their size, they will be compressed into 2017 Employee Travel Part 1 and Part 2. The Secretary's records will be posted separately.

<https://www.doi.gov/foia/os/os-foia-library-travel-records>

Rob

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Google Inc. 1600 Amphitheatre Parkway, Mountain View, CA 94043, USA

**To:** laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov[laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov];  
downey\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov[downey\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Robert Howarth (via Google Drive)  
**Sent:** 2017-12-29T16:09:18-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Travel Packages - Invitation to collaborate  
**Received:** 2017-12-29T16:09:27-05:00

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Rob

[Open](#)

Google Drive: Have all your files within reach from any device.

Google Inc. 1600 Amphitheatre Parkway, Mountain View, CA 94043, USA

**To:** downey\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov[downey\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov[laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov];  
heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Robert Howarth (via Google Drive)  
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Rob

[Open](#)

Google Drive: Have all your files within reach from any device.

Google Inc. 1600 Amphitheatre Parkway, Mountain View, CA 94043, USA

**To:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]; ddubray@blm.gov[ddubray@blm.gov]  
**From:** Sarah Emerson  
**Sent:** 2017-12-07T13:55:13-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** VICE comment request, re: BLM Flickr FOIA  
**Received:** 2017-12-07T13:55:21-05:00

Good afternoon,  
I'm a journalist with VICE, and hope this email finds you well.

We're publishing a story about BLM's pivot to promoting commercial land use on its Flickr page (mypubliclands). I received emails via FOIA that show BLM media staff populating the Flickr page with oil and gas photos, including emails that issue new guidance on promoting o&g, grazing, mining, timber, etc.

Can BLM or the Interior please comment on the following:

- 1) Who exactly instigated BLM's social media pivot to commercial land use?
- 2) Why were "monuments under review" listed as "sensitive/controversial topics" for social media staff?

Looking forward to hearing from you,  
Sarah

--

SARAH EMERSON  
Writer, MOTHERBOARD  
[@sarahnemerson](#)  
p: (b) (6)

**To:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Sarah Emerson  
**Sent:** 2017-08-24T18:19:48-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** VICE comment request, re: FOIA Dan Fagre/Mark Zuckerberg mtg  
**Received:** 2017-08-24T18:19:57-04:00

Hi Heather,

I'm a journalist at VICE, and just received documents from USGS pertaining to Dan Fagre's cancelled meeting with Mark Zuckerberg. The documents that I received via a FOIA request include planning emails, correspondence with Facebook, and press inquiries/responses to them.

I have a couple of questions for a story we will be publishing tomorrow morning:

- 1) Who exactly was responsible for cancelling the meeting between Fagre and Zuckerberg? Media reports said that "top officials" at DOI ultimately cancelled it, and I have an email from Fagre in which he says he doesn't know why his participation was cancelled.
- 2) Can you comment on why all press inquiries were forwarded to you? I have emails showing that USGS Comms was not allowed to handle media for stories related to their own climate scientists, and I'm curious to know why.
- 3) Can you comment on why you, specifically, did not want Superintendent Jeff Mow involved with the tour?
- 4) Can you comment on why NPS staff were instructed by Michael Reynolds not to post anything about the tour on social media?

Thanks so much,  
Sarah

--

Sarah Emerson  
Writer, MOTHERBOARD

---



---

VICE Media Group  
90 N. 11th St.  
Brooklyn, NY 11211  
Cell/Signal: (b) (6)  
[@sarahnemerson](https://twitter.com/sarahnemerson)

**To:** Laura Rigas[laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov]; Magallanes, Downey[downey\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov]; Daniel Jorjani[daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov]  
**From:** Swift, Heather  
**Sent:** 2017-12-11T09:07:12-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** was phost question travel  
**Received:** 2017-12-11T09:07:59-05:00

wash post

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

Dear Press Team,

An advocacy group has shared some documents from a FOIA request that concern the Secretary's April 17-18 trip to the Channel Island. The documents show that the federal government an incurred extra government expense of more than \$2,000 because the boat normally sails from Ventura Harbor. The reason for the change in harbor appears to be due to the fact that the Secretary chose to address the Young America's Foundation town hall in Santa Barbara.

I plan to post an item of this today (most likely, in the late morning), but I wanted to check in with you all first, especially since in one of the emails, the NPS superintendent seems to indicate that he had heard about Zinke's plans to address the conservative group, and may have extended the invitation to visit after learning about this commitment. So I would like a little more clarity on that.

Thanks so much. I am reachable all of the usual ways, below.

Juliet

Juliet Eilperin

Senior National Affairs Correspondent

Washington Post

[Juliet.eilperin@washpost.com](mailto:Juliet.eilperin@washpost.com)

(O) 202-334-7774

(C) (b) (6)

@eilperin



**To:** Swift, Heather (heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov)[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Heather Richards  
**Sent:** 2017-08-23T16:49:55-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Western Values Project  
**Received:** 2017-08-23T16:50:04-04:00

Hi Heather,

I was hoping someone could respond to the implication that the DOI was unduly influenced by oil and gas industry groups during the sage grouse review. The Western Values Project has filed a FOIA in regard to a letter from Western Energy Alliance requesting that the DOI change a number of things in the sage grouse RMPS. Of their recommendations a majority were included in the final report to the Interior Secretary.

Thank you,  
Heather Richards

**To:** Laura Rigas[laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov]; Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]; Barbara Wainman[barbara\_wainman@fws.gov]; Greg Sheehan[greg\_j\_sheehan@fws.gov]  
**From:** Shire, Gavin  
**Sent:** 2017-12-15T18:13:14-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Zim Elephant Inquiry summary  
**Received:** 2017-12-15T18:13:24-05:00

Friends of Animals made a Freedom of Information Act inquiry regarding permits issued for import of Elephant trophies from Zimbabwe. They received from the program and have now posted to their website the names (and cities and states) of 16 people who received import permits after the negative finding was issued. They concluded (erroneously) that we had violated our own negative finding by issuing these permits.

Darryl Fears with the Washington Post called to ask about this issue and so we quickly researched the FOIA results. It turns out that 15 of the 16 permits were issued legitimately because they were all for elephants that were hunted prior to the the embargo being enforced by the negative finding. If FoA had called us first to ask us about this, we would have explained it to them. The 16th permit was issued in error (it was a trophy shot in Zimbabwe that was being routed through South Africa, our permit folks thought the elephant was shot in South Africa); it is being rescinded.

The post had a firm 4:30 pm deadline that they would not extend. With little time left on the clock, we spoke to the reporter on background in the hopes of getting him to stand down by carefully explaining the facts behind the issue. He said he would talk to his editor and we are waiting to see the outcome.

G

Gavin Shire  
Chief of Public Affairs  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
MS: EA  
5275 Leesburg Pike  
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803  
703-358-2649 (o)  
703-346-9123 (c)  
[gavin\\_shire@fws.gov](mailto:gavin_shire@fws.gov)

**To:** Ben Lefebvre[blefebvre@politico.com]  
**From:** Heather Swift  
**Sent:** 2017-12-07T18:28:22-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: question from Politico  
**Received:** 2017-12-07T18:28:29-05:00

The swearing in of the Congressman is absolutely an official event, as is emergency management training. Shame on you for not respecting the office of a Member of Congress.

Heather Swift  
Press Secretary  
Department of the Interior

On Dec 7, 2017, at 3:46 PM, Ben Lefebvre <[blefebvre@politico.com](mailto:blefebvre@politico.com)> wrote:

Hi Heather,

Hope you are well. I was glancing at some newly released DOI OS travel documents I received via FOIA. I see that on June 20, Sec. Zinke justified ordering a USPP helicopter to fly him to an 3 p.m. event in West Virginia, with the justification that he had to attend an event in D.C. until 2pm. But the D.C. event was Rep. Gianforte's swearing-in. Does DOI consider that swearing-in official business, especially given that Gianforte and his wife donated to Zinke's Congressional campaigns?

Also, on July 7, Zinke took a USPP helicopter to an event in Yorktown, Va., justifying it by saying he needed to be back in D.C. for a 4 p.m. event. That D.C. event was horseback riding with VP Pence. Again, did DOI consider that official business of the sort that necessitated a ~\$6,000 helicopter ride?

I know you already gave us a list of the times Sec. Zinke has used charter flights. Is there a way to get a more complete list of the times he has used government aircraft?

Thank you,

Ben Lefebvre  
Oil & gas policy reporter, POLITICOPro  
Desk: 703-647-8775  
Mobile/WhatsApp: (b) (6)  
Proton: [bjlefebvre@protonmail.com](mailto:bjlefebvre@protonmail.com)  
Twitter: @bjlefebvre

**To:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Ben Lefebvre  
**Sent:** 2017-11-17T16:20:21-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** RE: Question from Politico  
**Received:** 2017-11-17T16:20:25-05:00

And just a reminder to see if you can address my earlier question of when exactly Mrs. Zinke left Alaska. Did she attend any other events with the Secretary while in the state?

**From:** Swift, Heather [mailto:heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**Sent:** Friday, November 17, 2017 3:34 PM  
**To:** Ben Lefebvre <blefebvre@politico.com>  
**Subject:** Re: Question from Politico

To be clear: " the Governor and his wife." means the Governor's wife.

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Fri, Nov 17, 2017 at 3:32 PM, Ben Lefebvre <[blefebvre@politico.com](mailto:blefebvre@politico.com)> wrote:  
Thank you.

**From:** Swift, Heather [mailto:[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)]  
**Sent:** Friday, November 17, 2017 3:31 PM  
**To:** Ben Lefebvre <[blefebvre@politico.com](mailto:blefebvre@politico.com)>  
**Subject:** Re: Question from Politico

DOI did not pay for the meal with the Governor and his wife. The Secretary personally paid the State of Alaska for Mrs. Zinke's meal. Further, DOI incurred no expenses due to Mrs. Zinke's presence.

It's not accurate to say staff advised against it. Staff simply stated it would need to get it approved by ethics under short notice, which we did.

Mrs. Zinke paid for her own commercial airfare home from Alaska.

Secretary Zinke flew to Boise, Idaho, to visit the wildland firefighting center. <https://www.doi.gov/mediaadvisories/tomorrow-secretaries-perdue-and-zinke-speak-about-forestry-issues-and-policies-boise>

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior

@DOIPressSec

[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Fri, Nov 17, 2017 at 2:33 PM, Ben Lefebvre <[blefebvre@politico.com](mailto:blefebvre@politico.com)> wrote:

I see. The Secretary's plan did not change. How about Lola's stay in Alaska? Burton's email specifically says she adjusted the schedule to reflect that. Did the Zinke's reimburse DOI for her prolonged stay? Or did it not happen as per Burton's email? When exactly did Mrs. Zinke leave Alaska?

---

**From:** Heather Swift [mailto:[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)]

**Sent:** Friday, November 17, 2017 2:28 PM

**To:** Ben Lefebvre <[blefebvre@politico.com](mailto:blefebvre@politico.com)>

**Subject:** Re: Question from Politico

The trip was not prolonged. The Secretary always planned to stay in Alaska a few days. We had multiple press events that had been planned and actually we sent out the advisory with the events on 5/26. It's on the website.

Heather Swift

Press Secretary

Department of the Interior

On Nov 17, 2017, at 2:19 PM, Ben Lefebvre <[blefebvre@politico.com](mailto:blefebvre@politico.com)> wrote:

On May 28, Caroline Burton wrote:

*Mrs. Zinke will now be staying in Alaska postCODEL, a decision she and the Secretary made on the trip. The schedule has been adjusted to reflect that, including now driving from Denali as was originally the plan before the charter flight.*

*My concern for now is primarily the Monday dinner with the governors office, as paid for by the governors office. The Secretary wants her to join and has said he will personally reimburse them for her meal. I know this is taking place tomorrow and we're not giving you much time so apologies for the short turn around.*

Seeing as how the CODEL officially ended May 28, a May 28 email saying Mrs. Zinke will "now" be staying in Alaska and apologies for "the short turn around" seems to make things a bit spur of the moment.

---

**From:** Heather Swift [mailto:[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)]

**Sent:** Friday, November 17, 2017 2:17 PM

**To:** Ben Lefebvre <[blefebvre@politico.com](mailto:blefebvre@politico.com)>

**Subject:** Re: Question from Politico

Why do you think the trip was "prolonged"?

Heather Swift

Press Secretary

Department of the Interior

On Nov 17, 2017, at 2:14 PM, Ben Lefebvre <[blefebvre@politico.com](mailto:blefebvre@politico.com)> wrote:

Hi Heather,

Hope all is well. We received some FOIA'd emails from Interior re: the Secretary's travel schedule for certain trips. As such, a few questions for you:

1. Did Secretary Zinke reimburse DOI for Lola's meal at the governors meeting in Denali?
2. Was there any reason for Lola to attend that dinner? I know that Interior staff had originally advised against it.
3. When was the May trip to Anchorage planned? From the DOI emails, it seems that the Secretary and Mrs. Zinke added a few days to the trip as of May 26 or 27, so not sure if it was part of the original schedule. If it was tacked on during the last week of May, what was his purpose in prolonging the trip? And when exactly did Mrs. Zinke leave Alaska? It's not noted on the trip schedule. Did DOI pay for the return trip to the lower 48 for either of the parties who prolonged the trip?

Looking for end of day for deadline.

Thank you,

Ben Lefebvre  
Oil & gas policy reporter, POLITICOPro  
Desk: 703-647-8775  
Mobile/WhatsApp: (b) (6)  
Proton: [bjlefebvre@protonmail.com](mailto:bjlefebvre@protonmail.com)  
Twitter: @bjlefebvre

**To:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Ben Lefebvre  
**Sent:** 2017-11-17T16:17:22-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** RE: Question from Politico  
**Received:** 2017-11-17T16:17:33-05:00

Two more questions (and I apologize for keeping you busy on a Friday afternoon):

1. Any indication who paid for the Nat Geo dinner on April 10<sup>th</sup> at Hubbard Hall? It was to celebrate the Secretary's appointment.
2. And did Mrs. Zinke accompany her husband to the Safari Club dinner in Alaska on May 31<sup>st</sup>? She's not listed, but wanted to double check.

Thank you,  
Ben

**From:** Swift, Heather [mailto:heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**Sent:** Friday, November 17, 2017 3:31 PM  
**To:** Ben Lefebvre <blefebvre@politico.com>  
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-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

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**Sent:** Friday, November 17, 2017 2:28 PM  
**To:** Ben Lefebvre <[blefebvre@politico.com](mailto:blefebvre@politico.com)>  
**Subject:** Re: Question from Politico

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Heather Swift  
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Department of the Interior

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so apologies for the short turn around.*

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**Sent:** Friday, November 17, 2017 2:17 PM  
**To:** Ben Lefebvre <[blefebvre@politico.com](mailto:blefebvre@politico.com)>  
**Subject:** Re: Question from Politico

Why do you think the trip was "prolonged"?

Heather Swift  
Press Secretary  
Department of the Interior

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Looking for end of day for deadline.

Thank you,

Ben Lefebvre  
Oil & gas policy reporter, POLITICOPro  
Desk: 703-647-8775  
Mobile/WhatsApp: (b) (6)  
Proton: [bjlefebvre@protonmail.com](mailto:bjlefebvre@protonmail.com)  
Twitter: @bjlefebvre

**To:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Ben Lefebvre  
**Sent:** 2017-11-17T15:34:55-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** RE: Question from Politico  
**Received:** 2017-11-17T15:35:24-05:00

Got it. Thanks.

**From:** Swift, Heather [mailto:heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**Sent:** Friday, November 17, 2017 3:34 PM  
**To:** Ben Lefebvre <blefebvre@politico.com>  
**Subject:** Re: Question from Politico

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-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Fri, Nov 17, 2017 at 3:32 PM, Ben Lefebvre <[blefebvre@politico.com](mailto:blefebvre@politico.com)> wrote:  
Thank you.

**From:** Swift, Heather [mailto:[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)]  
**Sent:** Friday, November 17, 2017 3:31 PM  
**To:** Ben Lefebvre <[blefebvre@politico.com](mailto:blefebvre@politico.com)>  
**Subject:** Re: Question from Politico

DOI did not pay for the meal with the Governor and his wife. The Secretary personally paid the State of Alaska for Mrs. Zinke's meal. Further, DOI incurred no expenses due to Mrs. Zinke's presence.

It's not accurate to say staff advised against it. Staff simply stated it would need to get it approved by ethics under short notice, which we did.

Mrs. Zinke paid for her own commercial airfare home from Alaska.

Secretary Zinke flew to Boise, Idaho, to visit the wildland firefighting center. <https://www.doi.gov/mediaadvisories/tomorrow-secretaries-perdue-and-zinke-speak-about-forestry-issues-and-policies-boise>

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec

[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Fri, Nov 17, 2017 at 2:33 PM, Ben Lefebvre <[blefebvre@politico.com](mailto:blefebvre@politico.com)> wrote:

I see. The Secretary's plan did not change. How about Lola's stay in Alaska? Burton's email specifically says she adjusted the schedule to reflect that. Did the zinke's reimburse DOI for her prolonged stay? Or did it not happen as per Burton's email? When exactly did Mrs. Zinke leave Alaska?

---

**From:** Heather Swift [mailto:[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)]

**Sent:** Friday, November 17, 2017 2:28 PM

**To:** Ben Lefebvre <[blefebvre@politico.com](mailto:blefebvre@politico.com)>

**Subject:** Re: Question from Politico

The trip was not prolonged. The Secretary always planned to stay in Alaska a few days. We had multiple press events that had been planned and actually we sent out the advisory with the events on 5/26. It's on the website.

Heather Swift

Press Secretary

Department of the Interior

On Nov 17, 2017, at 2:19 PM, Ben Lefebvre <[blefebvre@politico.com](mailto:blefebvre@politico.com)> wrote:

On May 28, Caroline Burton wrote:

*Mrs. Zinke will now be staying in Alaska postCODEL, a decision she and the Secretary made on the trip. The schedule has been adjusted to reflect that, including now driving from Denali as was originally the plan before the charter flight.*

*My concern for now is primarily the Monday dinner with the governors office, as paid for by the governors office. The Secretary wants her to join and has said he will personally reimburse them for her meal. I know this is taking place tomorrow and we're not giving you much time so apologies for the short turn around.*

Seeing as how the CODEL officially ended May 28, a May 28 email saying Mrs. Zinke will "now" be staying in Alaska and apologies for "the short turn around" seems to make things a bit spur of the moment.

---

**From:** Heather Swift [mailto:[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)]

**Sent:** Friday, November 17, 2017 2:17 PM

**To:** Ben Lefebvre <[blefebvre@politico.com](mailto:blefebvre@politico.com)>

**Subject:** Re: Question from Politico

Why do you think the trip was "prolonged"?

Heather Swift

Press Secretary

Department of the Interior

On Nov 17, 2017, at 2:14 PM, Ben Lefebvre <[blefebvre@politico.com](mailto:blefebvre@politico.com)> wrote:

Hi Heather,  
Hope all is well. We received some FOIA'd emails from Interior re: the Secretary's travel schedule for certain trips. As such, a few questions for you:

1. Did Secretary Zinke reimburse DOI for Lola's meal at the governors meeting in Denali?
2. Was there any reason for Lola to attend that dinner? I know that Interior staff had originally advised against it.
3. When was the May trip to Anchorage planned? From the DOI emails, it seems that the Secretary and Mrs. Zinke added a few days to the trip as of May 26 or 27, so not sure if it was part of the original schedule. If it was tacked on during the last week of May, what was his purpose in prolonging the trip? And when exactly did Mrs. Zinke leave Alaska? It's not noted on the trip schedule. Did DOI pay for the return trip to the lower 48 for either of the parties who prolonged the trip?

Looking for end of day for deadline.

Thank you,

Ben Lefebvre  
Oil & gas policy reporter, POLITICOPro  
Desk: 703-647-8775  
Mobile/WhatsApp: (b) (6)  
Proton: [bjlefebvre@protonmail.com](mailto:bjlefebvre@protonmail.com)  
Twitter: @bjlefebvre

**To:** Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Ben Lefebvre  
**Sent:** 2017-11-17T14:40:35-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** RE: Question from Politico  
**Received:** 2017-11-17T14:40:55-05:00

Did she take a military flight? One of the emails says she had asked about taking one, though not sure whether that request was granted.

---

**From:** Heather Swift [mailto:heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**Sent:** Friday, November 17, 2017 2:28 PM  
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Press Secretary  
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Press Secretary  
Department of the Interior

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Mobile/WhatsApp: (b) (6)  
Proton: [bjlefebvre@protonmail.com](mailto:bjlefebvre@protonmail.com)  
Twitter: @bjlefebvre

**To:** Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Michael Doyle  
**Sent:** 2017-10-20T12:39:29-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** RE: questions  
**Received:** 2017-10-20T12:39:43-04:00

Thanks.

---

**From:** Heather Swift [mailto:heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**Sent:** Friday, October 20, 2017 12:39 PM  
**To:** Michael Doyle <mdoyle@eenews.net>  
**Subject:** Re: questions

Thanks for the readout

Yep to spoj

Heather Swift  
Press Secretary  
Department of the Interior

On Oct 20, 2017, at 12:15 PM, Michael Doyle <[mdoyle@eenews.net](mailto:mdoyle@eenews.net)> wrote:

Swift move!

I'll say: you guys will have absolutely no reason to be concerned with story. It's basically a profile, with material from his book, stuff about Twitter and campaign, mentions FOIA lawsuit...all pretty routine.

On the background quote, can we attribute to Interior 'spokesperson' rather than 'official?'

---

**From:** Heather Swift [[mailto:heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)]  
**Sent:** Friday, October 20, 2017 11:54 AM  
**To:** Michael Doyle <[mdoyle@eenews.net](mailto:mdoyle@eenews.net)>  
**Subject:** Re: questions

Ugh No. I'm getting (b) (6) [REDACTED]. I'm not kidding. ??

Heather Swift  
Press Secretary  
Department of the Interior

On Oct 20, 2017, at 11:35 AM, Michael Doyle <[mdoyle@eenews.net](mailto:mdoyle@eenews.net)> wrote:

You free now?

**From:** Swift, Heather [[mailto:heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)]  
**Sent:** Friday, October 20, 2017 11:05 AM  
**To:** Michael Doyle <[mdoyle@eenews.net](mailto:mdoyle@eenews.net)>  
**Subject:** Re: questions

statement: "Mrs. Zinke has zero role at the Department."

Background: Much like previous secretaries and spouses, she occasionally meets her husband while he is traveling at her own personal expense. She and all cabinet spouses received a federal ethics briefing.

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Thu, Oct 19, 2017 at 1:01 PM, Michael Doyle  
<[mdoyle@eenews.net](mailto:mdoyle@eenews.net)> wrote:  
Good afternoon:

I am writing a story about Mrs. Zinke, dealing with her role in politics (the Downing campaign), in public commentary (Twitter) and her support for the secretary.

(Parenthetical note: I understand there was a previous E&E story proposed, that never ran. This is not that story; I am a different reporter.)

A couple of questions:

Is Mrs. Zinke available for interview?  
How would you characterize her role at the department?  
On what occasions will she travel with the secretary?  
Does she have work space at the department?  
Has she received ethics briefing?

I appreciate the help. My deadline is Friday at 11 a.m.

Thanks.

Mike

Michael Doyle  
Reporter  
[mdoyle@eenews.net](mailto:mdoyle@eenews.net)  
202-446-0467 x467



@MichaelDoyle10

**E&E NEWS**

122 C Street NW 7th Floor Washington, DC 20001

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Energywire, Climatewire, Greenwire, E&E Daily, E&E News PM

**To:** Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Interior Press[interior\_press@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Esther Whieldon  
**Sent:** 2017-10-06T13:57:21-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Questions about Zinke's attendance of 2 fundraisers  
**Received:** 2017-10-06T13:57:33-04:00

Thanks one more question -- what percentage of the flights for those trips were paid for by taxpayers/Interior?

---

**From:** Heather Swift <heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 6, 2017 1:48 PM  
**To:** Esther Whieldon  
**Cc:** Interior Press  
**Subject:** Re: Questions about Zinke's attendance of 2 fundraisers

“The Interior Department under the Trump Administration has always and will always work to ensure all officials follow appropriate rules and regulations when traveling, including seeking commercial options at all times appropriate and feasible, to ensure the efficient use of government resources.” - Heather Swift, DOI spokesman

"The Scheduling Office meets regularly with the Departmental Ethics Office and the Division of General Law to ensure that all travel is thoroughly reviewed and approved in advance and that it is fully compliant with all applicable laws, rules, and regulations." --Joint Statement from Melinda Loftin (Department of the Interior Designated Agency Ethics Official and Director of the Departmental Ethics Office) and Edward Keable (Deputy Solicitor - General Law). Both are career members of the Senior Executive Service.

Heather Swift  
Press Secretary  
Department of the Interior

On Oct 6, 2017, at 1:41 PM, Esther Whieldon <[ewhieldon@politico.com](mailto:ewhieldon@politico.com)> wrote:

Heather,

I'm writing a story today about Zinke's attendance on March 17-18 to the Daines campaign fundraiser at Big Sky Resort in Montana and his attendance at Rep. Don Young's campaign fundraiser on May 31 at Sullivan's steakhouse. Apologies for the late notice but we just decided to write this up. Could you answer a few questions for me please by 4 ET? (let me know if you need more time and I might be able to push it back a few minutes).

For the Daines event --

I see on the expense report posted for the March trip on Interior's FOIA library that it mentions Zinke took personal time around the dates of the Daines' event and didn't take any M&IE on those days. Was that because he was attending the Daines event? Also, the expense report mentions a "A signed memo authorizing this personal time deviation" - any chance you can get me a copy of that memo? Did any of the Daines fundraiser PACs reimburse the Interior for any part of Zinke's trip? And if so, how much and what for?

For Rep. Young's event --

Did Zinke take any personal time or pay anything out of pocket associated with attending that fundraiser? Was there any memo approving his attendance of that? Did Young's campaign reimburse the Interior for any part of Zinke's trip to Alaska? And if so, how much and what for?

Lastly, please send a general comment on the extent to which Zinke mixes his work trips with political events and what he does to avoid violating Hatch Act and other laws regarding the use of government funds.

Thanks, Esther

Esther Whieldon  
Reporter  
POLITICO  
(b) (6) (mobile)

703-672-2788 (office)  
[ewhieldon@politico.com](mailto:ewhieldon@politico.com)  
Twitter: [@esthernow](https://twitter.com/esthernow)

**To:** Esther Whieldon[ewhieldon@politico.com]  
**Cc:** Interior Press[interior\_press@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Heather Swift  
**Sent:** 2017-10-06T13:48:11-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Questions about Zinke's attendance of 2 fundraisers  
**Received:** 2017-10-06T13:53:21-04:00

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[ewhieldon@politico.com](mailto:ewhieldon@politico.com)  
Twitter: [@esthernow](https://twitter.com/esthernow)

**To:** Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]; Interior Press[interior\_press@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Esther Whieldon  
**Sent:** 2017-11-02T17:58:51-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Questions about Zinke's newly posted calendar  
**Received:** 2017-11-02T18:06:13-04:00

standdown on the vacation question -- i just remembered he took a trip to Greece

Esther Whieldon  
Reporter  
POLITICO  
(b) (6) (mobile)  
703-672-2788 (office)  
ewhieldon@politico.com  
Twitter: [@esthernow](#)

---

**From:** Esther Whieldon  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 2, 2017 5:49 PM  
**To:** Heather Swift; Interior Press  
**Subject:** Questions about Zinke's newly posted calendar

I have a list of additional questions I will send later (that I don't need immediate comment on) but here are 2 in particular I hope you can address tonight -- fairly quickly.

Thanks, Esther

- 1) Why was Zinke off work from Aug. 5-20? FWIW this is coming now (and not earlier) because FOIA office just posted these documents.
- 2) What was the purpose of his meeting with Steve Ryan (who I believe may be the same guy from McDermott, Will & Emery who has represented Trump's personal attorney Michael Cohen in the russian meddling scandal) and a bunch of lawyers, public affairs people from Ballard Partners on Aug. 29?

Thanks, Esther

Esther Whieldon

Reporter

POLITICO

(b) (6) (mobile)

703-672-2788 (office)

ewhieldon@politico.com

Twitter: [@esthernow](#)



**To:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Howarth, Robert  
**Sent:** 2017-11-21T18:03:12-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: quick question on the volume of FOIA requests Interior is facing this calendar year, compared to last year  
**Received:** 2017-11-21T18:03:19-05:00

Heather, via OS FOIA...some of the info is more than you requested...be selective on its distribution.

We received 1226 requests during FY17, 140% more than FY16 when we received 509 requests.

We completed 712 requests during FY17, 33% more than FY16 when we completed 536 requests.

It should be noted that the number of requests climbed beginning in approximately January 2017, then surged in June through September, when we were receiving triple or quadruple the normal number of requests.

That rate of increase has become steeper in FY18. To date for FY18, we have received 250 requests. During FY17, for the same time period, we had received 48 requests. Thus, in one month this year, we have received what we have in the past received throughout the entire year.

To provide a longer history, here are the numbers since 2009:

FY 09: Received 504	Completed 455
FY 10: Received 447	Completed 440
FY 11: Received 469	Completed 476
FY 12: Received 438	Completed 499
FY 13: Received 365	Completed 385
FY 14: Received 416	Completed 400
FY 15: Received 571	Completed 544

Additional info from our DRAFT filing with DOJ from FY 2017:

Agency / Component	Number of Requests Pending as of Start	Number of Requests Received
--------------------	--	-----------------------------

	of Fiscal Year	in Fiscal Year
BIA	211	1,854
BLM	194	1,024
BOEM	17	170
BOR	17	315
BSEE	32	228
FWS	212	1,146
NPS	189	1,226
OIG	26	218
OS	62	1,226
OSM	26	143
SOL	19	250
USGS	41	205
AGENCY OVERALL	1,046	8,005

ANY QUESTIONS, call me on my cell - 202-549-8961

Rob

On Tue, Nov 21, 2017 at 5:28 PM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Hey team - any idea what the comparison for FOIA requests this year versus last year?

-

Heather Swift

Department of the Interior  
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----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Eilperin, Juliet** <[Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com](mailto:Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com)>

Date: Tue, Nov 21, 2017 at 5:24 PM

Subject: quick question on the volume of FOIA requests Interior is facing this calendar year, compared to last year

To: "[Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)" <[Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)>

Dear All,

Is there a way that tomorrow morning (not tonight, obviously), I could just get a tally of how many FOIAs DOI has received in calendar 2017 (so far) compared to 2016?

Thanks, Juliet

Juliet Eilperin

Senior National Affairs Correspondent

Washington Post

[Juliet.eilperin@washpost.com](mailto:Juliet.eilperin@washpost.com)

(O) 202-334-7774

(C) (b) (6)

@eilperin

--

Robert Howarth  
Deputy Director for Correspondence and FOIA Management  
Office of the Executive Secretariat and Regulatory Affairs  
Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20240  
202-208-3181

202-208-4451 (direct)  
202-549-8961 (cell)

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[Juliet.eilperin@washpost.com](mailto:Juliet.eilperin@washpost.com)

(O) 202-334-7774

(C) (b) (6)

@eilperin

--

Robert Howarth

Deputy Director for Correspondence and FOIA Management

Office of the Executive Secretariat and Regulatory Affairs

Department of the Interior

1849 C Street, NW

Washington, DC 20240

202-208-3181

202-208-4451 (direct)

202-549-8961 (cell)

**To:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Robert Howarth  
**Sent:** 2017-11-21T17:49:36-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: quick question on the volume of FOIA requests Interior is facing this calendar year, compared to last year  
**Received:** 2017-11-21T17:49:44-05:00

Stand by...

Sent from my iPhone

On Nov 21, 2017, at 5:28 PM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Hey team - any idea what the comparison for FOIA requests this year versus last year?

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Eilperin, Juliet <[Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com](mailto:Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com)>  
**Date:** Tue, Nov 21, 2017 at 5:24 PM  
**Subject:** quick question on the volume of FOIA requests Interior is facing this calendar year, compared to last year  
**To:** "[Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)" <[Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)>

Dear All,

Is there a way that tomorrow morning (not tonight, obviously), I could just get a tally of how many FOIAs DOI has received in calendar 2017 (so far) compared to 2016?

Thanks, Juliet

Juliet Eilperin

Senior National Affairs Correspondent

Washington Post

[Juliet.eilperin@washpost.com](mailto:Juliet.eilperin@washpost.com)



(O) 202-334-7774

(C) (b) (6)

@eilperin

**To:** Eilperin, Juliet[Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com]  
**Cc:** Interior\_Press@ios.doi.gov[Interior\_Press@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Swift, Heather  
**Sent:** 2017-11-21T17:33:58-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: quick question on the volume of FOIA requests Interior is facing this calendar year, compared to last year  
**Received:** 2017-11-21T17:34:45-05:00

FOIA is handled by career officials and I don't like to bother them on off hours or holidays.

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Tue, Nov 21, 2017 at 5:31 PM, Eilperin, Juliet <[Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com](mailto:Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com)> wrote:

Yeah, and sorry about the timing. EPA put something about FOIA today, and we were thinking we could capture how much FOIAs have gone up this year. But if it's not doable before the holiday, that's understandable.

**From:** Swift, Heather [mailto:[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 21, 2017 5:28 PM  
**To:** Eilperin, Juliet <[Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com](mailto:Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com)>  
**Cc:** [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)  
**Subject:** Re: quick question on the volume of FOIA requests Interior is facing this calendar year, compared to last year

Oh lord. It's a lot more. I don't know if I'll be able to get a tally for you tomorrow given the holiday.

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec

[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

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Dear All,

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Thanks, Juliet

Juliet Eilperin

Senior National Affairs Correspondent

Washington Post

[Juliet.eilperin@washpost.com](mailto:Juliet.eilperin@washpost.com)

(O) 202-334-7774

(C) (b) (6)

@eilperin

**To:** Krauss, Jeff[jkrauss@blm.gov]  
**Cc:** Michael Nedd[mike\_nedd@blm.gov]; Kathleen Benedetto[kbenedetto@blm.gov]; Cally Younger[cyounger@blm.gov]; Brian Steed[bsteed@blm.gov]; Russell Newell[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov]; Peter Mali[p mali@blm.gov]; Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]; Paul Ross[paul\_ross@ios.doi.gov]; Kristin Bail[kbail@blm.gov]; Steve Tryon[stryon@blm.gov]  
**From:** Ruhs, John  
**Sent:** 2017-10-04T06:14:19-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Readout of Washington Post interview with BLM Staff re: NEPA Streamlining  
**Received:** 2017-10-04T06:14:29-04:00

Thank you.

John F. Ruhs  
Deputy Director, Acting  
Bureau of Land Management  
O - 202-208-3801  
C - 307-214-5271

On Tue, Oct 3, 2017 at 8:53 PM, Krauss, Jeff <[jkrauss@blm.gov](mailto:jkrauss@blm.gov)> wrote:

Mike, John, Cally, Kathy and Brian,

Below is the readout on the *Washington Post* interview with BLM WO Staff: Yesterday evening *Washington Post* reporter Darryl Fears interviewed Leah Baker, BLM Division Chief of Decision Support, Planning and NEPA, and Cynthia Moses-Nedd, DOI Liaison to State and Local Governments about the planning report that is being finalized for Secretary Zinke on streamlining the planning and NEPA processes in the agency.

Fears said that he had been given notes from a recent webinar the BLM held that raised some concerns and he wanted to ask about them. Baker and Moses-Nedd provided extensive background on this effort and the reasons it was requested. He did provide the person's identity, but did indicate it was a person who had been invited to attend the webinar.

He said that some organizations and people are taking this effort as an assault on NEPA and FOIA. Moses-Nedd told him that the goal is in line with these and other current laws and is an effort to improve the processes and build efficiencies within those various laws. He was told that the ideas raised were not an attempt to circumvent or weaken any laws.

The two told Fears about the BLM's legal requirement to closely coordinate with state, local and tribal governments in BLM's planning process and to strive for consistency with state and local land use plans.

In response to his questions, Baker highlighted what BLM heard on the webinar and in its conversations with local and state government, such as the perception that that BLM hasn't been as strong in its coordination as it could be. Fears also asked questions about concerns that the streamlining exercise could undermine ESA. Baker explained that the streamlining effort looked at the ways that the BLM could coordinate with FWS on priority projects, such as infrastructure development, to ensure section 7 consultation is as efficient as possible. He also questioned

potential changes to the Equal Access to Justice Act (EAJA). Leah and Cynthia explained some of the perceptions of both laws by state and local government officials including perceived uses of EAJA payments to fund lawsuits against the BLM.

He also asked about specific recommendations that are contained in the report, to which BLM responded that the report has not yet been delivered or read by the Secretary, so could not discuss specifics.

Fears asked about what is perceived as a “higher status” being afforded to local government officials that gives them a “seat at the table.” In response, Leah and Cynthia also discussed cooperating agency status under NEPA and coordination under FLPMA highlighting that the laws that apply to special status groups, such as local, state and government partners and grants them that seat at the table as elected representatives in their communities.

Fears told us that he appreciated being able to talk to Baker and Moses-Nedd because it gave him a different perspective and helped answer some of the concerns raised to him. We expect the article to present both the concerns raised to him and our responses. While it won't likely be an out-and-out positive story, it is clear that it will be a much better article had we not spoken with him. The article is due tomorrow, but he said it is unlikely to run until the weekend due to the events in Las Vegas.

**To:** Krauss, Jeff[jkrauss@blm.gov]  
**Cc:** Michael Nedd[mike\_nedd@blm.gov]; John Ruhs[jruhs@blm.gov]; Kathleen Benedetto[kbenedetto@blm.gov]; Cally Younger[cyounger@blm.gov]; Brian Steed[bsteed@blm.gov]; Russell Newell[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov]; Peter Mali[pмали@blm.gov]; Paul Ross[paul\_ross@ios.doi.gov]; Kristin Bail[kbail@blm.gov]; Steve Tryon[stryon@blm.gov]  
**From:** Heather Swift  
**Sent:** 2017-10-03T21:38:18-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Readout of Washington Post interview with BLM Staff re: NEPA Streamlining  
**Received:** 2017-10-03T21:38:26-04:00

TY

Heather Swift  
Press Secretary  
Department of the Interior

On Oct 3, 2017, at 8:53 PM, Krauss, Jeff <[jkrauss@blm.gov](mailto:jkrauss@blm.gov)> wrote:

Mike, John, Cally, Kathy and Brian,

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Yesterday evening *Washington Post* reporter Darryl Fears interviewed Leah Baker, BLM Division Chief of Decision Support, Planning and NEPA, and Cynthia Moses-Nedd, DOI Liaison to State and Local Governments about the planning report that is being finalized for Secretary Zinke on streamlining the planning and NEPA processes in the agency.

Fears said that he had been given notes from a recent webinar the BLM held that raised some concerns and he wanted to ask about them. Baker and Moses-Nedd provided extensive background on this effort and the reasons it was requested. He did provide the person's identity, but did indicate it was a person who had been invited to attend the webinar. He said that some organizations and people are taking this effort as an assault on NEPA and FOIA. Moses-Nedd told him that the goal is in line with these and other current laws and is an effort to improve the processes and build efficiencies within those various laws. He was told that the ideas raised were not an attempt to circumvent or weaken any laws.

The two told Fears about the BLM's legal requirement to closely coordinate with state, local and tribal governments in BLM's planning process and to strive for consistency with state and local land use plans. In response to his questions, Baker highlighted what BLM heard on the webinar and in its conversations with local and state government, such as the perception that that BLM hasn't been as strong in its coordination as it could be. Fears also asked questions about concerns that the streamlining exercise could undermine ESA. Baker explained that the streamlining effort looked at the ways that the BLM could coordinate with FWS on

priority projects, such as infrastructure development, to ensure section 7 consultation is as efficient as possible. He also questioned potential changes to the Equal Access to Justice Act (EAJA). Leah and Cynthia explained some of the perceptions of both laws by state and local government officials including perceived uses of EAJA payments to fund lawsuits against the BLM.

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Fears told us that he appreciated being able to talk to Baker and Moses-Nedd because it gave him a different perspective and helped answer some of the concerns raised to him. We expect the article to present both the concerns raised to him and our responses. While it won't likely be an out-and-out positive story, it is clear that it will be a much better article had we not spoken with him. The article is due tomorrow, but he said it is unlikely to run until the weekend due to the events in Las Vegas.

**To:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Howarth, Robert  
**Sent:** 2017-11-27T17:28:46-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: redline  
**Received:** 2017-11-27T17:28:53-05:00

awaiting on BOR and SOL surnames

On Mon, Nov 27, 2017 at 5:27 PM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

This works for me. Is it good to go or do I need to send it elsewhere?

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Mon, Nov 27, 2017 at 5:25 PM, Howarth, Robert <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Hi Heather...attached suggested redline.

Rob

--

Robert Howarth  
Deputy Director for Correspondence and FOIA Management  
Office of the Executive Secretariat and Regulatory Affairs  
Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20240  
202-208-3181  
202-208-4451 (direct)  
202-549-8961 (cell)

--

Robert Howarth  
Deputy Director for Correspondence and FOIA Management  
Office of the Executive Secretariat and Regulatory Affairs  
Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20240  
202-208-3181  
202-208-4451 (direct)



202-549-8961 (cell)

**To:** Michael Phillis[michael.phillis@law360.com]  
**Cc:** Interior Press[Interior\_Press@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Swift, Heather  
**Sent:** 2017-08-09T14:45:46-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Reporter Inquiry - FOIA's from Center for Biological Diversity  
**Received:** 2017-08-09T14:46:36-04:00

Please direct questions about litigation to DOJ.

Please find the Secretary's schedule here. <https://www.doi.gov/foia/os/secretarial-schedules>

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Wed, Aug 9, 2017 at 2:43 PM, Michael Phillis <[michael.phillis@law360.com](mailto:michael.phillis@law360.com)> wrote:

Hello,

I'm reaching out in regards to three FOIA requests that the Center said they had submitted earlier this year but had not received a response. I'm writing to ask first why no response has been given to those request and to ask if they were especially broad in scope as to make an answer more difficult?

The requests asked for Zinke's communications, schedules and documents on presidential declarations of monuments dating back to the mid-1990s.

Thank you in advance for your time.

Sincerely,  
Michael Phillis  
Reporter, Law360  
[michael.phillis@law360.com](mailto:michael.phillis@law360.com)  
646.350.1399

Legal News & Data  
111 W. 19th Street, 5th Floor  
New York, NY 10011

**To:** alex\_hinson@ios.doi.gov[alex\_hinson@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Heather Swift  
**Sent:** 2017-09-13T12:36:31-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Reporter Reaching Out Re: FOIA Docs I Just Received  
**Received:** 2017-09-13T12:37:35-04:00

Please send this guy the statement on Mrs. LaPierre

Heather Swift  
Press Secretary  
Department of the Interior

On Sep 13, 2017, at 12:14 PM, Michael Spies <[mspies@thetrace.org](mailto:mspies@thetrace.org)> wrote:

Hi, Heather. My name is Mike Spies, and I'm a senior reporter at The Trace ([thetrace.org](http://thetrace.org)), which is an investigative reporting site that covers the gun issue. We co-publish our stories with a number of prominent news outlets, including the New Yorker, Rolling Stone, and Politico Magazine. I'm working on a story about Susan LaPierre's appointment to the National Park Foundation's board of directors. Today I received a dozen emails (through FOIA) from the Interior Department concerning her appointment, and I'd like to discuss them with you as soon as possible. Please call me at (b) (6) .

Thanks,  
Mike

**To:** CNS Washington DC[wdc@courthousenews.com]  
**Cc:** Interior Press[Interior\_Press@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Swift, Heather  
**Sent:** 2017-11-21T09:56:31-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Request for Comment on FOIA Lawsuit  
**Received:** 2017-11-21T09:57:22-05:00

please direct questions about litigation to DOJ.

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Tue, Nov 21, 2017 at 9:49 AM, CNS Washington DC <[wdc@courthousenews.com](mailto:wdc@courthousenews.com)> wrote:

Good morning,

This is Britain Eakin with Courthouse News. I'm working on a story about a Freedom of Information Act lawsuit filed by Friends of the Earth in the D.C. District Court yesterday, which names the Department of the Interior as a defendant. I've attached a copy of the complaint for your convenience.

The lawsuit alleges that DOI has failed to process a request for records about secretary Zinke's review of national monuments in conjunction with associate deputy secretary James Carson, who the group says has ties to oil and mining companies that want national monuments opened for resource extraction.

Would the DOI like to comment on the lawsuit, and whether it plans to disclose the requested records?

My story deadline is 11 a.m. EST today. Please feel free to give me a call at the number attached to my signature, or reply to this email.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Britain Eakin

Courthouse News Service

D.C. Reporter

520-861-2399

**To:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Interior Press[interior\_press@ios.doi.gov]; Anthony Adragna[aadragna@politico.com]; Nick Juliano[njuliano@politico.com]  
**From:** Esther Whieldon  
**Sent:** 2017-07-25T18:41:06-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Request for comment: DOI/DOC Monument comment sharing  
**Received:** 2017-07-25T18:41:15-04:00

Ok thanks!

---

**From:** Swift, Heather <heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 25, 2017 6:34 PM  
**To:** Esther Whieldon  
**Cc:** Interior Press; Anthony Adragna  
**Subject:** Re: Request for comment: DOI/DOC Monument comment sharing

Just got it. Total nonstory. The comment period just ended and the two agencies were coordinating to see which format made the most sense to share the data. The Rose Atoll comments that you see were a sample of the format that we proposed and that NOAA today accepted. Interior will share the comments on marine monuments with them in the format.

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Tue, Jul 25, 2017 at 6:26 PM, Esther Whieldon <[ewhieldon@politico.com](mailto:ewhieldon@politico.com)> wrote:

Any response please send to Anthony. He may be able to get it in tonight if you can get it to him before he puts the newsletter to bed.

---

**From:** Esther Whieldon  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 25, 2017 3:06:16 PM  
**To:** Swift, Heather  
**Cc:** Interior Press; Anthony Adragna  
**Subject:** Re: Request for comment: DOI/DOC Monument comment sharing

by 6 pm please. Thanks

---

**From:** Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 25, 2017 2:56:43 PM  
**To:** Esther Whieldon  
**Cc:** Interior Press; Anthony Adragna  
**Subject:** Re: Request for comment: DOI/DOC Monument comment sharing

Deadline?

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Tue, Jul 25, 2017 at 2:37 PM, Esther Whieldon <[ewhieldon@politico.com](mailto:ewhieldon@politico.com)> wrote:

The Center for American Progress claims that FOIA'd records show that Interior has passed along less than 500 copies of comments to the Commerce Department referencing the marine monuments but the group says that more than a half a million comments submitted to Interior actually mentioned the marine monuments. Interior said in the Federal Register notice that people shouldn't duplicate comments between the agencies because DOI would share what it received.

Please comment on this, including the extent to which the Interior passed along information to the Commerce Department in this review. Are you planning on sending more over?

Thanks, Esther

**To:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Magallanes, Downey[downey\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov]; Russell Newell[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Bowman, Randal  
**Sent:** 2017-07-25T15:59:43-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Request for comment: DOI/DOC Monument comment sharing  
**Received:** 2017-07-25T15:59:49-04:00

By coincidence, I just got off the phone with the lead NOAA staff person after a call catching up on issues for the review.

We offered to provide NOAA copies of or access to all marine monument comments at the beginning of the process. The Rose Atoll comments we provided previously, those referenced in the inquiry, were a sample, for NOAA staff to use in determining whether they wanted the marine monument comments we received, given that the format in which they export is difficult to read and use, or just access to them. They have now decided that they do want copies of the comments, and so we will send them similar but longer spreadsheets covering all marine monument comments received. All of these comments are available on [regulations.gov](http://regulations.gov).

On Tue, Jul 25, 2017 at 2:56 PM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Question below on sharing comments with Commerce.

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Esther Whieldon <[ewhieldon@politico.com](mailto:ewhieldon@politico.com)>  
**Date:** Tue, Jul 25, 2017 at 2:37 PM  
**Subject:** Request for comment: DOI/DOC Monument comment sharing  
**To:** Interior Press <[interior\\_press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:interior_press@ios.doi.gov)>, Heather Swift <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Cc:** Anthony Adragna <[aadragna@politico.com](mailto:aadragna@politico.com)>

The Center for American Progress claims that FOIA'd records show that Interior has passed along less than 500 copies of comments to the Commerce Department referencing the marine monuments but the group says that more than a half a million comments submitted to Interior actually mentioned the marine monuments. Interior said in the Federal Register notice that people shouldn't duplicate comments between the agencies because DOI would share what it received.



Please comment on this, including the extent to which the Interior passed along information to the Commerce Department in this review. Are you planning on sending more over?

Thanks, Esther

**To:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Bowman, Randal[randal\_bowman@ios.doi.gov]; Russell Newell[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Magallanes, Downey  
**Sent:** 2017-07-25T15:35:40-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Request for comment: DOI/DOC Monument comment sharing  
**Received:** 2017-07-25T15:35:47-04:00

Randy can you please connect with Heather by phone?

On Tue, Jul 25, 2017 at 2:56 PM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Question below on sharing comments with Commerce.

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Esther Whieldon <[ewhieldon@politico.com](mailto:ewhieldon@politico.com)>  
**Date:** Tue, Jul 25, 2017 at 2:37 PM  
**Subject:** Request for comment: DOI/DOC Monument comment sharing  
**To:** Interior Press <[interior\\_press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:interior_press@ios.doi.gov)>, Heather Swift <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Cc:** Anthony Adragna <[aadragna@politico.com](mailto:aadragna@politico.com)>

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Thanks, Esther

--

Downey Magallanes  
Acting Deputy Chief of Staff  
Senior Advisor and Counselor  
[downey\\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov](mailto:downey_magallanes@ios.doi.gov)  
202-501-0654 (desk)  
202-706-9199 (cell)

**To:** Davis, Natalie[natalie\_davis@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Hinson, Alex[alex\_hinson@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Heather Swift  
**Sent:** 2017-09-13T11:54:29-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: request from reporter  
**Received:** 2017-09-13T11:55:09-04:00

Thanks.

Heather Swift  
Press Secretary  
Department of the Interior

> On Sep 13, 2017, at 11:51 AM, Davis, Natalie <natalie\_davis@ios.doi.gov> wrote:  
>  
> Hi Heather.  
>  
> A guy named Mike from Trace.org just called me regarding LaPierre and her appointment to NPF. I  
guess he had questions regarding one of my emails from a FOIA request he had submitted.  
>  
> I told him to reach out to you guys. His number is (b) (6) .  
>  
> Thanks,  
> Natalie  
>  
> --  
> Natalie Davis  
> Special Assistant to the Secretary  
> U.S. Department of the Interior  
> 202.208.4928  
>  
>  
>

**To:** Howarth, Robert[robert\_howarth@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Swift, Heather  
**Sent:** 2017-09-08T17:10:03-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Request Immediate Surname - Wildland Fire  
**Received:** 2017-09-08T17:10:50-04:00

What's the word bird?

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Fri, Sep 8, 2017 at 3:53 PM, Howarth, Robert <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

sure

On Fri, Sep 8, 2017 at 3:52 PM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Can you please send me the final word version as well so I can copy/paste

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Fri, Sep 8, 2017 at 3:51 PM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

huzzah!

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Fri, Sep 8, 2017 at 3:45 PM, Howarth, Robert <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

yes; Julie is taking to Scott at 4.

Rob

On Fri, Sep 8, 2017 at 3:42 PM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Did we get everyone?

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Fri, Sep 8, 2017 at 2:21 PM, Howarth, Robert <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

sure

On Fri, Sep 8, 2017 at 2:16 PM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Rob, can you please send me the memo once it's been signed

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Fri, Sep 8, 2017 at 12:28 PM, Howarth, Robert <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

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Any specific questions, please direct them to David Mihalic (cc'd here) at (202) 208-4130/ (b) (6) (cell).

**Please respond to this email with your surname today by 3:30 pm--NO LATER.**

Regards, Rob

--

Robert Howarth  
Deputy Director for Correspondence and FOIA Management  
Office of the Executive Secretariat and Regulatory Affairs  
Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20240

202-208-3181  
202-208-4451 (direct)  
202-549-8961 (cell)

--

Robert Howarth  
Deputy Director for Correspondence and FOIA Management  
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Washington, DC 20240  
202-208-3181  
202-208-4451 (direct)  
202-549-8961 (cell)

**To:** Michael Black[mike.black@bia.gov]  
**Cc:** Howarth, Robert[robert\_howarth@ios.doi.gov]; Daniel Jorjani[daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov]; Peg Romanik[peg.romanik@sol.doi.gov]; Louise Milkman[louise.milkman@sol.doi.gov]; Rice, Bryan[bryan\_rice@ios.doi.gov]; Leff, Craig[Craig\_Leff@ios.doi.gov]; Harry Humbert[harry\_humbert@ios.doi.gov]; Scott Cameron[scott\_cameron@ios.doi.gov]; Katharine MacGregor[katharine\_macgregor@ios.doi.gov]; Todd Willens[todd\_willens@ios.doi.gov]; Rigas, Laura[laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov]; Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]; Downey Magallanes[downey\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov]; David Mihalic[david\_mihalic@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Chambers, Micah  
**Sent:** 2017-09-08T14:32:48-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Request Immediate Surname - Wildland Fire  
**Received:** 2017-09-08T14:34:20-04:00

OCL is good with it. Sorry for the delay.

On Fri, Sep 8, 2017 at 12:59 PM, Michael Black <[mike.black@bia.gov](mailto:mike.black@bia.gov)> wrote:

I surname as well

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 8, 2017, at 12:28 PM, Howarth, Robert <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

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Regards, Rob

--

Robert Howarth  
Deputy Director for Correspondence and FOIA Management  
Office of the Executive Secretariat and Regulatory Affairs  
Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20240  
202-208-3181  
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202-549-8961 (cell)



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--

Micah Chambers  
Acting Director  
Office of Congressional & Legislative Affairs  
Office of the Secretary of the Interior

**To:** Howarth, Robert[robert\_howarth@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Swift, Heather  
**Sent:** 2017-09-08T14:24:44-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Request Immediate Surname - Wildland Fire  
**Received:** 2017-09-08T14:25:30-04:00

Cool - who are we waiting on?

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Fri, Sep 8, 2017 at 2:24 PM, Howarth, Robert <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

yes, that's the plan

On Fri, Sep 8, 2017 at 2:22 PM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Thank you :) Are you expecting that this afternoon?

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Fri, Sep 8, 2017 at 2:21 PM, Howarth, Robert <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

sure

On Fri, Sep 8, 2017 at 2:16 PM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Rob, can you please send me the memo once it's been signed

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Fri, Sep 8, 2017 at 12:28 PM, Howarth, Robert <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

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Any specific questions, please direct them to David Mihalic (cc'd here) at (202) 208-4130/ (b) (6) (cell).

**Please respond to this email with your surname today by 3:30 pm--NO LATER.**

Regards, Rob

--

Robert Howarth  
Deputy Director for Correspondence and FOIA Management  
Office of the Executive Secretariat and Regulatory Affairs  
Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20240  
202-208-3181  
202-208-4451 (direct)  
202-549-8961 (cell)

--

Robert Howarth  
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Robert Howarth  
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Office of the Executive Secretariat and Regulatory Affairs  
Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW

Washington, DC 20240  
202-208-3181  
202-208-4451 (direct)  
202-549-8961 (cell)

**To:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Laura Rigas  
**Sent:** 2017-09-08T13:36:57-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Request Immediate Surname - Wildland Fire  
**Received:** 2017-09-08T13:37:05-04:00

Do you have the comms materials ready? If so, pls send asap. Thx!

Laura Keehner Rigas  
Communications Director  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 897-7022 cell  
@Interior

On Sep 8, 2017, at 12:50 PM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

(b) (5). I think (b) (5)  
(b) (5) I think (b) (5)  
(b) (5).

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Fri, Sep 8, 2017 at 12:37 PM, Laura Rigas <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

I'm not sure (b) (5). We don't have the materials for the rollout and need to coordinate with folks.

Laura Keehner Rigas  
Communications Director  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 897-7022 cell  
@Interior

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Howarth, Robert" <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Date:** September 8, 2017 at 12:28:02 PM EDT  
**To:** Daniel Jorjani <[daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov](mailto:daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov)>, Peg Romanik <[peg.romanik@sol.doi.gov](mailto:peg.romanik@sol.doi.gov)>, Louise Milkman <[louise.milkman@sol.doi.gov](mailto:louise.milkman@sol.doi.gov)>, "Rice, Bryan"

<[bryan\\_rice@ios.doi.gov](mailto:bryan_rice@ios.doi.gov)>, "Leff, Craig"  
<[Craig\\_Leff@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Craig_Leff@ios.doi.gov)>, Harry Humbert  
<[harry\\_humbert@ios.doi.gov](mailto:harry_humbert@ios.doi.gov)>, Scott Cameron  
<[scott\\_cameron@ios.doi.gov](mailto:scott_cameron@ios.doi.gov)>, Katharine MacGregor  
<[katharine\\_macgregor@ios.doi.gov](mailto:katharine_macgregor@ios.doi.gov)>, Todd Willens  
<[todd\\_willens@ios.doi.gov](mailto:todd_willens@ios.doi.gov)>, Micah Chambers  
<[micah\\_chambers@ios.doi.gov](mailto:micah_chambers@ios.doi.gov)>, "Rigas, Laura"  
<[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)>, Heather Swift  
<[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)>, Michael Black  
<[mike.black@bia.gov](mailto:mike.black@bia.gov)>, Downey Magallanes  
<[downey\\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov](mailto:downey_magallanes@ios.doi.gov)>

**Cc:** David Mihalic <[david\\_mihalic@ios.doi.gov](mailto:david_mihalic@ios.doi.gov)>

**Subject: Request Immediate Surname - Wildland Fire**

Hello all. Attached for your review and surname is a memorandum to be signed by the Secretary. Regrettably, I am on a very tight schedule! Secretary expects to sign this today.

Please review the "To list" to make sure all managers have been included in the memorandum.

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Any specific questions, please direct them to David Mihalic (cc'd here) at (202) 208-4130/  
(b) (6) (cell).

**Please respond to this email with your surname today by 3:30 pm--  
NO LATER.**

Regards, Rob

--

Robert Howarth  
Deputy Director for Correspondence and FOIA Management  
Office of the Executive Secretariat and Regulatory Affairs  
Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20240  
202-208-3181  
202-208-4451 (direct)  
202-549-8961 (cell)

**To:** Howarth, Robert[robert\_howarth@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Daniel Jorjani[daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov]; Peg Romanik[peg.romanik@sol.doi.gov]; Louise Milkman[louise.milkman@sol.doi.gov]; Rice, Bryan[bryan\_rice@ios.doi.gov]; Leff, Craig[Craig\_Leff@ios.doi.gov]; Harry Humbert[harry\_humbert@ios.doi.gov]; Scott Cameron[scott\_cameron@ios.doi.gov]; Katharine MacGregor[katharine\_macgregor@ios.doi.gov]; Todd Willens[todd\_willens@ios.doi.gov]; Micah Chambers[micah\_chambers@ios.doi.gov]; Rigas, Laura[laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov]; Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]; Downey Magallanes[downey\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov]; David Mihalic[david\_mihalic@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Michael Black  
**Sent:** 2017-09-08T12:59:30-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Request Immediate Surname - Wildland Fire  
**Received:** 2017-09-08T13:00:32-04:00

I surname as well

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 8, 2017, at 12:28 PM, Howarth, Robert <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

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Deputy Director for Correspondence and FOIA Management  
Office of the Executive Secretariat and Regulatory Affairs  
Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20240  
202-208-3181  
202-208-4451 (direct)  
202-549-8961 (cell)

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**To:** Howarth, Robert[robert\_howarth@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Daniel Jorjani[daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov]; Peg Romanik[peg.romanik@sol.doi.gov]; Louise Milkman[louise.milkman@sol.doi.gov]; Rice, Bryan[bryan\_rice@ios.doi.gov]; Leff, Craig[Craig\_Leff@ios.doi.gov]; Harry Humbert[harry\_humbert@ios.doi.gov]; Scott Cameron[scott\_cameron@ios.doi.gov]; Todd Willens[todd\_willens@ios.doi.gov]; Micah Chambers[micah\_chambers@ios.doi.gov]; Rigas, Laura[laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov]; Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]; Michael Black[mike.black@bia.gov]; Downey Magallanes[downey\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov]; David Mihalic[david\_mihalic@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** MacGregor, Katharine  
**Sent:** 2017-09-08T12:35:23-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Request Immediate Surname - Wildland Fire  
**Received:** 2017-09-08T12:35:38-04:00

Consider this my surname. Only suggestion is on page 2 to (b) (5)

etc. - it seems (b) (5)

-K

"Such methods of fuel treatment safeguard public and firefighter safety and protect our landscapes, scenic vistas, and natural and historic objects; our neighbors, nearby communities, and infrastructure; and our own administrative and visitor service assets and facilities. "

On Fri, Sep 8, 2017 at 12:28 PM, Howarth, Robert <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

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202-208-3181  
202-208-4451 (direct)  
202-549-8961 (cell)



--

Kate MacGregor

*Acting* Assistant Secretary - Land and Minerals Management

U.S. Department of the Interior

1849 C ST NW

Room 6625

Washington DC 20240

202-208-3671 (Direct)

**To:** Harry Humbert[harry\_humbert@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Howarth, Robert[robert\_howarth@ios.doi.gov]; Daniel Jorjani[daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov]; Peg Romanik[peg.romanik@sol.doi.gov]; Louise Milkman[louise.milkman@sol.doi.gov]; Rice, Bryan[bryan\_rice@ios.doi.gov]; Leff, Craig[Craig\_Leff@ios.doi.gov]; Katharine MacGregor[katharine\_macgregor@ios.doi.gov]; Todd Willens[todd\_willens@ios.doi.gov]; Micah Chambers[micah\_chambers@ios.doi.gov]; Rigas, Laura[laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov]; Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]; Michael Black[mike.black@bia.gov]; Downey Magallanes[downey\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov]; David Mihalic[david\_mihalic@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Cameron, Scott  
**Sent:** 2017-09-08T12:31:51-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Request Immediate Surname - Wildland Fire  
**Received:** 2017-09-08T12:32:33-04:00

You have my surname as well.

Thanks,  
Scott  
Scott J. Cameron  
Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy, Management and Budget  
Office of the Secretary of the Interior  
Desk 202 208 4242  
Cell 202 706 9031

On Fri, Sep 8, 2017 at 12:30 PM, Harry Humbert <[harry\\_humbert@ios.doi.gov](mailto:harry_humbert@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

DAS-PRE is good with this.

Harry

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 8, 2017, at 12:28 PM, Howarth, Robert <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

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Regards, Rob

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Robert Howarth  
Deputy Director for Correspondence and FOIA Management  
Office of the Executive Secretariat and Regulatory Affairs  
Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20240  
202-208-3181  
202-208-4451 (direct)  
202-549-8961 (cell)

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**To:** Newell, Russell[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Nachmany, Eli[eli\_nachmany@ios.doi.gov]; Laura Rigas[laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov]; Alex Hinson[alex\_hinson@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Swift, Heather  
**Sent:** 2017-09-18T10:32:50-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Request Surname - Secretary Proclamation  
**Received:** 2017-09-18T10:33:37-04:00

Once finalized, Alex please draft a press release.

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Mon, Sep 18, 2017 at 9:57 AM, Newell, Russell <[russell\\_newell@ios.doi.gov](mailto:russell_newell@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

a bit too much happy to glad editing.

Russell Newell  
Deputy Director of Communications  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 208-6232  
@Interior

On Fri, Sep 15, 2017 at 5:41 PM, Nachmany, Eli <[eli\\_nachmany@ios.doi.gov](mailto:eli_nachmany@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Building on Russ' edits with a healthy package of grammar-crazy proofing

--

Sincerely,  
Eli Nachmany  
Writer, U.S. Department of the Interior  
Office of Communications

On Fri, Sep 15, 2017 at 5:35 PM, Newell, Russell <[russell\\_newell@ios.doi.gov](mailto:russell_newell@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

My track change edits attached.

Russell Newell  
Deputy Director of Communications  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 208-6232  
@Interior

On Fri, Sep 15, 2017 at 5:22 PM, Laura Rigas <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

FYI in case you want to review. We will need a press release for when he signs it next Thurs. Thx!

Laura Keehner Rigas  
Communications Director  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 897-7022 cell  
@Interior

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Howarth, Robert" <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Date:** September 15, 2017 at 5:09:59 PM EDT  
**To:** Katharine Macgregor <[kate\\_macgregor@ios.doi.gov](mailto:kate_macgregor@ios.doi.gov)>, "Jorjani, Daniel" <[daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov](mailto:daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov)>, Laura Rigas <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)>, Micah Chambers <[micah\\_chambers@ios.doi.gov](mailto:micah_chambers@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Cc:** Rich Cardinale <[Richard\\_Cardinale@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Richard_Cardinale@ios.doi.gov)>, Mary Grace <[Marigrace.Caminiti@sol.doi.gov](mailto:Marigrace.Caminiti@sol.doi.gov)>, Lisa M Cannuscio <[Lisa\\_Cannuscio@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Lisa_Cannuscio@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Subject:** Request Surname - Secretary Proclamation

Good afternoon. Attached for your review and surname is a proposed Secretary Proclamation for October as National Hunting and Fishing Month. The Secretary is expected to sign it on September 21.

This is on a fast track. **I will need your surname by 10:00 a.m. Monday morning.**

Any questions on the proposed proclamation, please call Todd Willens at 208-3437.

Thanks, Rob

--

Robert Howarth  
Deputy Director for Correspondence and FOIA Management  
Office of the Executive Secretariat and Regulatory Affairs  
Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20240  
202-208-3181  
202-208-4451 (direct)  
202-549-8961 (cell)

**To:** Nachmany, Eli[[eli\\_nachmany@ios.doi.gov](mailto:eli_nachmany@ios.doi.gov)]  
**Cc:** Newell, Russell[[russell\\_newell@ios.doi.gov](mailto:russell_newell@ios.doi.gov)]; Heather Swift[[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)]; Alex Hinson[[alex\\_hinson@ios.doi.gov](mailto:alex_hinson@ios.doi.gov)]  
**From:** Rigas, Laura  
**Sent:** 2017-09-18T09:53:45-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Request Surname - Secretary Proclamation  
**Received:** 2017-09-18T09:53:52-04:00

Thanks. I am sending this to Rob now. If anyone has additional edits, please send them to him and cc me.

*Laura Keehner Rigas  
Communications Director  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 897-7022 cell  
@Interior*

On Fri, Sep 15, 2017 at 5:41 PM, Nachmany, Eli <[eli\\_nachmany@ios.doi.gov](mailto:eli_nachmany@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Building on Russ' edits with a healthy package of grammar-crazy proofing

--

Sincerely,  
Eli Nachmany  
Writer, U.S. Department of the Interior  
Office of Communications

On Fri, Sep 15, 2017 at 5:35 PM, Newell, Russell <[russell\\_newell@ios.doi.gov](mailto:russell_newell@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

My track change edits attached.

Russell Newell  
Deputy Director of Communications  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 208-6232  
@Interior

On Fri, Sep 15, 2017 at 5:22 PM, Laura Rigas <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

FYI in case you want to review. We will need a press release for when he signs it next Thurs. Thx!

Laura Keehner Rigas  
Communications Director  
U.S. Department of the Interior

(202) 897-7022 cell  
@Interior

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Howarth, Robert" <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Date:** September 15, 2017 at 5:09:59 PM EDT  
**To:** Katharine Macgregor <[kate\\_macgregor@ios.doi.gov](mailto:kate_macgregor@ios.doi.gov)>, "Jorjani, Daniel" <[daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov](mailto:daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov)>, Laura Rigas <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)>, Micah Chambers <[micah\\_chambers@ios.doi.gov](mailto:micah_chambers@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Cc:** Rich Cardinale <[Richard\\_Cardinale@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Richard_Cardinale@ios.doi.gov)>, Mary Grace <[Marigrace.Caminiti@sol.doi.gov](mailto:Marigrace.Caminiti@sol.doi.gov)>, Lisa M Cannuscio <[Lisa\\_Cannuscio@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Lisa_Cannuscio@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Subject:** Request Surname - Secretary Proclamation

Good afternoon. Attached for your review and surname is a proposed Secretary Proclamation for October as National Hunting and Fishing Month. The Secretary is expected to sign it on September 21.

This is on a fast track. **I will need your surname by 10:00 a.m. Monday morning.**

Any questions on the proposed proclamation, please call Todd Willens at 208-3437.

Thanks, Rob

--

Robert Howarth  
Deputy Director for Correspondence and FOIA Management  
Office of the Executive Secretariat and Regulatory Affairs  
Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20240  
202-208-3181  
202-208-4451 (direct)  
202-549-8961 (cell)

**To:** Newell, Russell[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Laura Rigas[laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov]; Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]; Alex Hinson[alex\_hinson@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Nachmany, Eli  
**Sent:** 2017-09-15T17:41:19-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Request Surname - Secretary Proclamation  
**Received:** 2017-09-15T17:41:26-04:00  
[0915 OCO Natl HF Month.docx](#)

Building on Russ' edits with a healthy package of grammar-crazy proofing

--

Sincerely,  
Eli Nachmany  
Writer, U.S. Department of the Interior  
Office of Communications

On Fri, Sep 15, 2017 at 5:35 PM, Newell, Russell <[russell\\_newell@ios.doi.gov](mailto:russell_newell@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

My track change edits attached.

Russell Newell  
Deputy Director of Communications  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 208-6232  
@Interior

On Fri, Sep 15, 2017 at 5:22 PM, Laura Rigas <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

FYI in case you want to review. We will need a press release for when he signs it next Thurs. Thx!

Laura Keehner Rigas  
Communications Director  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 897-7022 cell  
@Interior

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Howarth, Robert" <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Date:** September 15, 2017 at 5:09:59 PM EDT  
**To:** Katharine Macgregor <[kate\\_macgregor@ios.doi.gov](mailto:kate_macgregor@ios.doi.gov)>, "Jorjani, Daniel" <[daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov](mailto:daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov)>, Laura Rigas <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)>, Micah Chambers <[micah\\_chambers@ios.doi.gov](mailto:micah_chambers@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Cc:** Rich Cardinale <[Richard\\_Cardinale@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Richard_Cardinale@ios.doi.gov)>, Mary Grace



<[Marigrace.Caminiti@sol.doi.gov](mailto:Marigrace.Caminiti@sol.doi.gov)>, Lisa M Cannuscio  
<[Lisa\\_Cannuscio@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Lisa_Cannuscio@ios.doi.gov)>

**Subject: Request Surname - Secretary Proclamation**

Good afternoon. Attached for your review and surname is a proposed Secretary Proclamation for October as National Hunting and Fishing Month. The Secretary is expected to sign it on September 21.

This is on a fast track. **I will need your surname by 10:00 a.m. Monday morning.**

Any questions on the proposed proclamation, please call Todd Willens at 208-3437.

Thanks, Rob

--

Robert Howarth  
Deputy Director for Correspondence and FOIA Management  
Office of the Executive Secretariat and Regulatory Affairs  
Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20240  
202-208-3181  
202-208-4451 (direct)  
202-549-8961 (cell)

**To:** Laura Rigas[laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Russell Newell[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Swift, Heather  
**Sent:** 2017-12-12T10:47:40-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Request Surname - Training  
**Received:** 2017-12-12T10:48:27-05:00

nope

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Tue, Dec 12, 2017 at 8:34 AM, Laura Rigas <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Any issue with this?

Laura Keehner Rigas  
Communications Director  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 897-7022 cell  
@Interior

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Howarth, Robert" <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Date:** December 12, 2017 at 7:32:57 AM EST  
**To:** Laura Rigas <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Request Surname - Training

Good morning...sorry, left you off original request. Please review the attached Dep Sec memo and email me your surname as soon as possible.

Thanks, Rob

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Howarth, Robert** <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)>  
Date: Mon, Dec 11, 2017 at 3:07 PM  
Subject: Request Surname - Training  
To: Scott Cameron <[scott\\_cameron@ios.doi.gov](mailto:scott_cameron@ios.doi.gov)>, Mary Pletcher  
<[Mary\\_Pletcher@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Mary_Pletcher@ios.doi.gov)>, "Jorjani, Daniel" <[daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov](mailto:daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov)>

Good afternoon. Attached for your review and surname is a memorandum from the Deputy Secretary

to the Assistant Secretaries and heads of bureaus and offices regarding training.

**Please email me your surname and any suggested changes by Noon on Tuesday, December 12.**

Regards, Rob

--

Robert Howarth  
Deputy Director for Correspondence and FOIA Management  
Office of the Executive Secretariat and Regulatory Affairs  
Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20240  
202-208-3181  
202-208-4451 (direct)  
202-549-8961 (cell)

--

Robert Howarth  
Deputy Director for Correspondence and FOIA Management  
Office of the Executive Secretariat and Regulatory Affairs  
Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20240  
202-208-3181  
202-208-4451 (direct)  
202-549-8961 (cell)

**To:** Laura Rigas[laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]; Russell Newell[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov]; Hinson, Alex[alex\_hinson@ios.doi.gov]; Nachmany, Eli[eli\_nachmany@ios.doi.gov]; Rebecca Matulka[rebecca\_matulka@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Adams, Nathan  
**Sent:** 2017-10-25T13:47:08-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Revised FINAL Report  
**Received:** 2017-10-25T13:47:56-04:00

There were updates to the report. Here is the new link:

[https://www.doi.gov/sites/doi.gov/files/uploads/doi\\_energy\\_actions\\_final\\_report.pdf](https://www.doi.gov/sites/doi.gov/files/uploads/doi_energy_actions_final_report.pdf)

On Wed, Oct 25, 2017 at 10:02 AM, Adams, Nathan <[nathan\\_adams@ios.doi.gov](mailto:nathan_adams@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Here's the link to the pdf on the website:

[https://www.doi.gov/sites/doi.gov/files/uploads/review\\_of\\_interior\\_actions\\_final\\_report.pdf](https://www.doi.gov/sites/doi.gov/files/uploads/review_of_interior_actions_final_report.pdf)

On Wed, Oct 25, 2017 at 9:33 AM, Laura Rigas <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

FYI, here's the final copy which will needed to be posted in concert with our release today (around 2pm).

Thanks,

L

Laura Keehner Rigas  
Communications Director  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 897-7022 cell  
@Interior

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Howarth, Robert" <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Date:** October 25, 2017 at 8:04:39 AM EDT  
**To:** Laura Rigas <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Subject:** Revised FINAL Report

Good morning. Please call me, thanks.

Rob

--

Robert Howarth  
Deputy Director for Correspondence and FOIA Management  
Office of the Executive Secretariat and Regulatory Affairs

Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20240  
202-208-3181  
202-208-4451 (direct)  
202-549-8961 (cell)

--

Nate Adams  
Office of Communications  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
202-208-2060

--

Nate Adams  
Office of Communications  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
202-208-2060

**To:** Matulka, Rebecca[rebecca\_matulka@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Adams, Nathan[nathan\_adams@ios.doi.gov]; Gillick, Larry[larry\_gillick@ios.doi.gov]; Laura Rigas[laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov]; Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]; Hinson, Alex[alex\_hinson@ios.doi.gov]; Nachmany, Eli[eli\_nachmany@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Newell, Russell  
**Sent:** 2017-10-25T10:33:56-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Revised FINAL Report  
**Received:** 2017-10-25T10:34:04-04:00

Larry suggested [doi.gov/energy](http://doi.gov/energy) for the link to the Energy Report and I think that would be a good home.

Russell Newell  
Deputy Director of Communications  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 208-6232  
@Interior

On Wed, Oct 25, 2017 at 10:06 AM, Matulka, Rebecca <[rebecca\\_matulka@ios.doi.gov](mailto:rebecca_matulka@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Adding Larry since Russell chatted with him earlier this week about posting the report.

On Wed, Oct 25, 2017 at 10:02 AM, Adams, Nathan <[nathan\\_adams@ios.doi.gov](mailto:nathan_adams@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Here's the link to the pdf on the website:

[https://www.doi.gov/sites/doi.gov/files/uploads/review\\_of\\_interior\\_actions\\_final\\_report.pdf](https://www.doi.gov/sites/doi.gov/files/uploads/review_of_interior_actions_final_report.pdf)

On Wed, Oct 25, 2017 at 9:33 AM, Laura Rigas <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

FYI, here's the final copy which will needed to be posted in concert with our release today (around 2pm).

Thanks,  
L

Laura Keehner Rigas  
Communications Director  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 897-7022 cell  
@Interior

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Howarth, Robert" <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Date:** October 25, 2017 at 8:04:39 AM EDT  
**To:** Laura Rigas <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)>

**Subject: Revised FINAL Report**

Good morning. Please call me, thanks.

Rob

--

Robert Howarth  
Deputy Director for Correspondence and FOIA Management  
Office of the Executive Secretariat and Regulatory Affairs  
Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20240  
202-208-3181  
202-208-4451 (direct)  
202-549-8961 (cell)

--

Nate Adams  
Office of Communications  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
202-208-2060

--

Rebecca Matulka  
Deputy Director of Digital  
Interior Department  
202.208.5337

**To:** Howarth, Robert[robert\_howarth@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Rigas, Laura  
**Sent:** 2017-10-24T15:49:52-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Roll out of EO 13783 Reports - On Wednesday, October 25th, Next Week  
**Received:** 2017-10-24T15:49:59-04:00

Thanks. We are finalizing products now and should send it to them within the hour.  
My best,  
L

*Laura Keehner Rigas*  
*Communications Director*  
*U.S. Department of the Interior*  
*(202) 897-7022 cell*  
*@Interior*

On Tue, Oct 24, 2017 at 3:44 PM, Howarth, Robert <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Hello...for your attention.

Rob

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Szabo, Aaron L. EOP/OMB (b) (6) >  
**Date:** Tue, Oct 24, 2017 at 3:32 PM  
**Subject:** RE: Roll out of EO 13783 Reports - On Wednesday, October 25th, Next Week  
**To:** "Nickerson, William" <[Nickerson.William@epa.gov](mailto:Nickerson.William@epa.gov)>, "Samantha Dravis (Dravis.samantha@Epa.gov)" <[Dravis.samantha@epa.gov](mailto:Dravis.samantha@epa.gov)>, "Bolen, Brittany" <[bolen.brittany@epa.gov](mailto:bolen.brittany@epa.gov)>, "Feeley, Drew (Robert)" <[feeley.robert@epa.gov](mailto:feeley.robert@epa.gov)>, "Ford, Sean H (OST)" <[Sean.Ford@dot.gov](mailto:Sean.Ford@dot.gov)>, "Cattaneo, Lia (OST)" <[lia.cattaneo@dot.gov](mailto:lia.cattaneo@dot.gov)>, (b) (6) <[\(b\) \(6\)@state.gov](mailto:(b) (6)@state.gov)>, "Uthmeier, James (Federal)" <[JUthmeier@doc.gov](mailto:JUthmeier@doc.gov)>, "Murray, Mariel J - OBPA, Washington, DC" <[Mariel.Murray@obpa.usda.gov](mailto:Mariel.Murray@obpa.usda.gov)>, "Staiert, Jim - OBPA, Washington, DC" <[Jim.Staiert@obpa.usda.gov](mailto:Jim.Staiert@obpa.usda.gov)>, "Zehren, Chris - OBPA, Washington, DC" <[Chris.Zehren@obpa.usda.gov](mailto:Chris.Zehren@obpa.usda.gov)>, "[ellen.brown@ferc.gov](mailto:ellen.brown@ferc.gov)" <[ellen.brown@ferc.gov](mailto:ellen.brown@ferc.gov)>, "[Nicholas.Tackett@ferc.gov](mailto:Nicholas.Tackett@ferc.gov)" <[Nicholas.Tackett@ferc.gov](mailto:Nicholas.Tackett@ferc.gov)>, "[Karin.Larson@ferc.gov](mailto:Karin.Larson@ferc.gov)" <[Karin.Larson@ferc.gov](mailto:Karin.Larson@ferc.gov)>, Anthony Pugliese <[Anthony.Pugliese@ferc.gov](mailto:Anthony.Pugliese@ferc.gov)>, "Swirsky, Stephanie - ASP" <[Swirsky.Stephanie@dol.gov](mailto:Swirsky.Stephanie@dol.gov)>, "Dawkins, Laura M - ASP" <[Dawkins.Laura.M@dol.gov](mailto:Dawkins.Laura.M@dol.gov)>, "Larkin, Jessica K - ASP" <[Larkin.Jessica.K@dol.gov](mailto:Larkin.Jessica.K@dol.gov)>, "Fitzgerald, Erin - ASP" <[Fitzgerald.Erin@dol.gov](mailto:Fitzgerald.Erin@dol.gov)>, "[Heidi.Cohen@treasury.gov](mailto:Heidi.Cohen@treasury.gov)" <[Heidi.Cohen@treasury.gov](mailto:Heidi.Cohen@treasury.gov)>, David Bernhardt <[dwbernhardt@ios.doi.gov](mailto:dwbernhardt@ios.doi.gov)>, "Blake-Kennerly, Shena" <[Shena.Kennerly@hq.doe.gov](mailto:Shena.Kennerly@hq.doe.gov)>, "[Alexander.Fitzsimmons@ee.doe.gov](mailto:Alexander.Fitzsimmons@ee.doe.gov)" <[Alexander.Fitzsimmons@ee.doe.gov](mailto:Alexander.Fitzsimmons@ee.doe.gov)>, "Smith, Charles R CIV (US)" <[\(b\) \(6\)@ios.doi.gov](mailto:(b) (6)@ios.doi.gov)>, Juliette Lillie <[juliette\\_lillie@ios.doi.gov](mailto:juliette_lillie@ios.doi.gov)>, "Howarth, Robert" <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)>, "Byers, Bradley SES SD" <[\(b\) \(6\)@hq.doe.gov](mailto:(b) (6)@hq.doe.gov)>, "[Daniel.Simmons@hq.doe.gov](mailto:Daniel.Simmons@hq.doe.gov)" <[Daniel.Simmons@hq.doe.gov](mailto:Daniel.Simmons@hq.doe.gov)>  
**Cc:** "Catanzaro, Michael J. EOP/WHO" <(b) (6)>, "Love, Kelly



A. EOP/WHO" (b) (6) , "Schlapp, Mercedes V. EOP/WHO"  
<(b) (6) >, "McGinley, William J. EOP/WHO"  
<(b) (6) >, "Rateike, Bradley A. EOP/WHO"  
<(b) (6) >, "Palmieri, Rosario A. EOP/OMB"  
<(b) (6) >, "Neumayr, Mary B. EOP/CEQ"  
<(b) (6) >, "Szabo, Aaron L. EOP/OMB"  
<(b) (6) >

All,

Please have your agency provide their respective Comms information as soon as possible.  
We have only received Comms information from the following agencies:

- 1) Commerce;
- 2) USDA;
- 3) FERC; and
- 4) DOL.

Thank you very much.

**Aaron L. Szabo**

Policy Analyst

Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs

Office of Management and Budget

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

---

**From:** Szabo, Aaron L. EOP/OMB  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 24, 2017 11:00 AM

---

**To:** Nickerson, William <[Nickerson.William@epa.gov](mailto:Nickerson.William@epa.gov)>; Samantha Dravis (Dravis.samantha@Epa.gov) <Dravis.samantha@Epa.gov>; Bolen, Brittany <[bolen.brittany@epa.gov](mailto:bolen.brittany@epa.gov)>; Feeley, Drew (Robert) <[feeley.robert@epa.gov](mailto:feeley.robert@epa.gov)>; Ford, Sean H (OST) <[Sean.Ford@dot.gov](mailto:Sean.Ford@dot.gov)>; Cattaneo, Lia (OST) <[lia.cattaneo@dot.gov](mailto:lia.cattaneo@dot.gov)>; (b) (6) <[\[REDACTED\]@state.gov](mailto:[REDACTED]@state.gov)>; Uthmeier, James (Federal) <[JUthmeier@doc.gov](mailto:JUthmeier@doc.gov)>; Murray, Mariel J - OBPA, Washington, DC <[Mariel.Murray@obpa.usda.gov](mailto:Mariel.Murray@obpa.usda.gov)>; Staiert, Jim - OBPA, Washington, DC <[Jim.Staiert@obpa.usda.gov](mailto:Jim.Staiert@obpa.usda.gov)>; Zehren, Chris - OBPA, Washington, DC <[Chris.Zehren@obpa.usda.gov](mailto:Chris.Zehren@obpa.usda.gov)>; [ellen.brown@ferc.gov](mailto:ellen.brown@ferc.gov); [Nicholas.Tackett@ferc.gov](mailto:Nicholas.Tackett@ferc.gov); [Karin.Larson@ferc.gov](mailto:Karin.Larson@ferc.gov); Anthony Pugliese <[Anthony.Pugliese@ferc.gov](mailto:Anthony.Pugliese@ferc.gov)>; Swirsky, Stephanie - ASP <[Swirsky.Stephanie@dol.gov](mailto:Swirsky.Stephanie@dol.gov)>; Dawkins, Laura M - ASP <[Dawkins.Laura.M@dol.gov](mailto:Dawkins.Laura.M@dol.gov)>; Larkin, Jessica K - ASP <[Larkin.Jessica.K@dol.gov](mailto:Larkin.Jessica.K@dol.gov)>; Fitzgerald, Erin - ASP <[Fitzgerald.Erin@dol.gov](mailto:Fitzgerald.Erin@dol.gov)>; [Heidi.Cohen@treasury.gov](mailto:Heidi.Cohen@treasury.gov); David Bernhardt <[dwbernhardt@ios.doi.gov](mailto:dwbernhardt@ios.doi.gov)>; Blake-Kennerly, Shena <[Shena.Kennerly@hq.doe.gov](mailto:Shena.Kennerly@hq.doe.gov)>; [Alexander.Fitzsimmons@ee.doe.gov](mailto:Alexander.Fitzsimmons@ee.doe.gov); Smith, Charles R CIV (US) <(b) (6)>; Juliette Lillie <[juliette\\_lillie@ios.doi.gov](mailto:juliette_lillie@ios.doi.gov)>; Howarth, Robert <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)>; Byers, Bradley SES SD <(b) (6)>; [Daniel.Simmons@hq.doe.gov](mailto:Daniel.Simmons@hq.doe.gov)

**Cc:** Catanzaro, Michael J. EOP/WHO <(b) (6)>; Love, Kelly A. EOP/WHO <(b) (6)>; Schlapp, Mercedes V. EOP/WHO <(b) (6)>; McGinley, William J. EOP/WHO <(b) (6)>; Rateike, Bradley A. EOP/WHO <(b) (6)>; Palmieri, Rosario A. EOP/OMB <(b) (6)>; Neumayr, Mary B. EOP/CEQ <(b) (6)>; Szabo, Aaron L. EOP/OMB <(b) (6)>

**Subject:** RE: Roll out of EO 13783 Reports - On Wednesday, October 25th, Next Week

All,

This is a reminder that Comms information is due at noon today and should be sent to myself and everyone on CC.

Also, I have received some questions about publishing in the *Federal Register*. Agencies should submit their final plans on Thursday to the *Federal Register* to be published. As mentioned in a previous email, the goal is to publish all agency reports in the Federal Register within one month of announcement (i.e., November 25<sup>th</sup>).

Thank you very much and let me know if you have any questions.

**Aaron L. Szabo**

Policy Analyst

Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs

Office of Management and Budget

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

---

**From:** Szabo, Aaron L. EOP/OMB

**Sent:** Friday, October 20, 2017 5:27 PM

**To:** Nickerson, William <[Nickerson.William@epa.gov](mailto:Nickerson.William@epa.gov)>; Samantha Dravis (<[Dravis.samantha@Epa.gov](mailto:Dravis.samantha@Epa.gov)> <[Dravis.samantha@Epa.gov](mailto:Dravis.samantha@Epa.gov)>; Bolen, Brittany <[bolen.brittany@epa.gov](mailto:bolen.brittany@epa.gov)>; Feeley, Drew (Robert) <[feeley.robert@epa.gov](mailto:feeley.robert@epa.gov)>; Ford, Sean H (OST) <[Sean.Ford@dot.gov](mailto:Sean.Ford@dot.gov)>; Cattaneo, Lia (OST) <[lia.cattaneo@dot.gov](mailto:lia.cattaneo@dot.gov)>; (b) (6) <[\(b\) \(6\)@state.gov](mailto:(b) (6)@state.gov)>; Uthmeier, James (Federal) <[JUthmeier@doc.gov](mailto:JUthmeier@doc.gov)>; Murray, Mariel J - OBPA, Washington, DC <[Mariel.Murray@obpa.usda.gov](mailto:Mariel.Murray@obpa.usda.gov)>; Staiert, Jim - OBPA, Washington, DC <[Jim.Staiert@obpa.usda.gov](mailto:Jim.Staiert@obpa.usda.gov)>; Zehren, Chris - OBPA, Washington, DC <[Chris.Zehren@obpa.usda.gov](mailto:Chris.Zehren@obpa.usda.gov)>; [ellen.brown@ferc.gov](mailto:ellen.brown@ferc.gov); [Nicholas.Tackett@ferc.gov](mailto:Nicholas.Tackett@ferc.gov); [Karin.Larson@ferc.gov](mailto:Karin.Larson@ferc.gov); Anthony Pugliese <[Anthony.Pugliese@ferc.gov](mailto:Anthony.Pugliese@ferc.gov)>; Swirsky, Stephanie - ASP <[Swirsky.Stephanie@dol.gov](mailto:Swirsky.Stephanie@dol.gov)>; Dawkins, Laura M - ASP <[Dawkins.Laura.M@dol.gov](mailto:Dawkins.Laura.M@dol.gov)>; Larkin, Jessica K - ASP <[Larkin.Jessica.K@dol.gov](mailto:Larkin.Jessica.K@dol.gov)>; Fitzgerald, Erin - ASP <[Fitzgerald.Erin@dol.gov](mailto:Fitzgerald.Erin@dol.gov)>; [Heidi.Cohen@treasury.gov](mailto:Heidi.Cohen@treasury.gov); David Bernhardt <[dwbernhardt@ios.doi.gov](mailto:dwbernhardt@ios.doi.gov)>; Blake-Kennerly, Shena <[Shena.Kennerly@hq.doe.gov](mailto:Shena.Kennerly@hq.doe.gov)>; [Alexander.Fitzsimmons@ee.doe.gov](mailto:Alexander.Fitzsimmons@ee.doe.gov); Smith, Charles R CIV (US) <(b) (6)>; Juliette Lillie <[juliette\\_lillie@ios.doi.gov](mailto:juliette_lillie@ios.doi.gov)>; Howarth, Robert <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)>; Byers, Bradley SES SD <(b) (6)>; '[Daniel.Simmons@hq.doe.gov](mailto:Daniel.Simmons@hq.doe.gov)' <[Daniel.Simmons@hq.doe.gov](mailto:Daniel.Simmons@hq.doe.gov)>

**Cc:** Szabo, Aaron L. EOP/OMB <(b) (6)>; Catanzaro, Michael J. EOP/WHO <(b) (6)>; Love, Kelly A. EOP/WHO <(b) (6)>; Schlapp, Mercedes V. EOP/WHO <(b) (6)>; McGinley, William J. EOP/WHO <(b) (6)>; Rateike, Bradley A. EOP/WHO <(b) (6)>; Palmieri, Rosario A. EOP/OMB <(b) (6)>; Neumayr, Mary B. EOP/CEQ <(b) (6)>

**Subject:** Roll out of EO 13783 Reports - On Wednesday, October 25th, Next Week

All,

Thank you very much for all of your continued hard work on the EO 13783 reports and it has really shown. We have received over 50 new initiatives from agencies and look forward to implementation.

We are requesting the following actions from agencies with respect to next week:

1. Provide your agency's EO 13783 final report on your agencies website **on Wednesday, after 10am, but before midnight**. Email Mike Catanzaro and me the link to the website address. If you know the website address before it is posted, please provide that to us.
2. If your agency has not done so already, submit the final report to [Section.2.EO13783@omb.eop.gov](mailto:Section.2.EO13783@omb.eop.gov) **by COB Tuesday**.
3. **By noon, Tuesday**, please provide your agency's plan and language for:
  - a. Proactively reaching out to reporters;
  - b. Social Media (e.g., Facebook, twitter); and
  - c. Op-eds.

Finally, please be aware that Cabinet Secretaries should be prepared to discuss these reports at the next Cabinet-level meeting on November 1<sup>st</sup>.

Thank you very much and please let me know if you have any questions.

**Aaron L. Szabo**

Policy Analyst

Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs

Office of Management and Budget

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

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Robert Howarth  
Deputy Director for Correspondence and FOIA Management  
Office of the Executive Secretariat and Regulatory Affairs  
Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20240  
202-208-3181  
202-208-4451 (direct)  
202-549-8961 (cell)

**To:** Bowman, Randal[[randal\\_bowman@ios.doi.gov](mailto:randal_bowman@ios.doi.gov)]  
**Cc:** Downey Magallanes[[downey\\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov](mailto:downey_magallanes@ios.doi.gov)]  
**From:** Heather Swift  
**Sent:** 2017-08-16T15:42:41-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Search Request - FOIA Request: OS-2017-01043  
**Received:** 2017-08-16T15:42:51-04:00

Thanks for sending Randy.

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 16, 2017, at 2:40 PM, Bowman, Randal <[randal\\_bowman@ios.doi.gov](mailto:randal_bowman@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

FOIA request from Wash Post  
----- Forwarded message -----  
From: **OS, OS FOIA** <[osfoia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov)>  
Date: Wed, Aug 16, 2017 at 3:09 PM  
Subject: Search Request - FOIA Request: OS-2017-01043  
To: Gisella Ojeda-dodds <[gisella\\_ojeda-dodds@ios.doi.gov](mailto:gisella_ojeda-dodds@ios.doi.gov)>, Randal Bowman  
<[Randal\\_Bowman@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Randal_Bowman@ios.doi.gov)>

All,

Please feel free to add anyone who will be involved in the search for responsive records.

✘ "Complex" Processing Track

Thank you/Karmen

OS FOIA has received a Freedom of Information Act request for which we believe your Office may have responsive materials. Please use the below chart, attached copy of the FOIA request, and attached FOIA Control Form to inform us of your search efforts.

- If available, please provide responsive documents to OS FOIA electronically (CD, FOIA DMU Processing Application, email, or thumb drive). Please note that Bison Connect can pull emails electronically with the DMU Processing App's and OS staff can assist with this tool. Please contact OS FOIA if electronic documents are not available.**
- Please track the time required to search for these documents on the attached control form.**
- If you have any questions regarding the specific guidance on copying, reviewing, and submitting documents to the OS FOIA office, please call 202-513-0765.**

Please reply/send all items to [osfoia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov) - Except "FOIA/DMU Processing

**Tool" searches**

(Please include [osfoia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov) on all communications/discussions regarding this FOIA request.)

<b>Action Office:</b> Office of the Secretary	<b>Responsible Program Office:</b> IOS
<b>Current Date:</b> 08/16/17	<b>Due Date:</b> 08/30/17
<b>FOIA Request Control Number:</b> OS-2017-01043	<b>OS FOIA Contact (MIB 7328):</b> Cindy Sweeney
<b>Requester's Name:</b> Darryl Fears	<b>Amount Requester Is Willing To Pay:</b> Fee Waiver Requested

Thank you,  
Karmen

--

Department of the Interior  
Office of the Secretary, FOIA Office  
1849 C Street, NW, MS-7328  
Washington, D.C. 20240  
[os\\_foia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:os_foia@ios.doi.gov)  
(202) 513-0765 - phone  
(202) 219-2374 - fax

<17-01043qa.docx>

<FOIA Control Form (updated) BLANK.pdf>

**To:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Matulka, Rebecca  
**Sent:** 2017-12-01T14:32:21-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Search Request OS-2018-00262  
**Received:** 2017-12-01T14:32:41-05:00

Thanks!

On Fri, Dec 1, 2017 at 2:30 PM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

good with me

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Fri, Dec 1, 2017 at 2:29 PM, Matulka, Rebecca <[rebecca\\_matulka@ios.doi.gov](mailto:rebecca_matulka@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Heather,

Here is the FOIA all the federal agencies got, and my proposed response. I'm also having our Records person look at it.

We don't have any records that meet this FOIA request. The only tweets that we know of that were deleted are ones that had grammatical mistakes, were missing content, such as a photo that was supposed to accompany the tweet, the wrong URL, and an incorrect date. In these cases, the tweets were deleted and reposted with the mistake fixed.

It is Interior policy that grammar or typographical changes can be made without preserving a copy for records because these are considered non-substantive changes and have no records value. It is important to respond to any comment acknowledging the grammar mistake for transparency.

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** OS, OS FOIA <[osfoia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Date:** Tue, Nov 28, 2017 at 1:56 PM  
**Subject:** Fwd: Search Request OS-2018-00262  
**To:** Rebecca Matulka <[rebecca\\_matulka@ios.doi.gov](mailto:rebecca_matulka@ios.doi.gov)>

Hello Rebecca, we were referred to you by Larry Gillick.

Forwarding the below search request for responsive documents related to the attached request.

Thank you  
Karmen



----- Forwarded message -----

From: **OS, OS FOIA** <[osfoia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov)>  
Date: Tue, Nov 28, 2017 at 1:45 PM  
Subject: Search Request OS-2018-00262  
To: Larry Gillick <[larry\\_gillick@ios.doi.gov](mailto:larry_gillick@ios.doi.gov)>

OS FOIA has received a Freedom of Information Act request for which we believe your Office may have responsive materials. Please use the below chart, attached copy of the FOIA request, and attached FOIA Control Form to inform us of your search efforts.

- **If available, please provide responsive documents to OS FOIA electronically (CD, FOIA DMU Processing Application, email, or thumb drive). Please note that Bison Connect can pull emails electronically with the DMU Processing App's and OS staff can assist with this tool. Please contact OS FOIA if electronic documents are not available.**
- **Please track the time required to search for these documents on the attached control form.**
- **If you have any questions regarding the specific guidance on copying, reviewing, and submitting documents to the OS FOIA office, please call 202-513-0765.**

<b>Please reply/send all items to <a href="mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov">osfoia@ios.doi.gov</a> - Except "FOIA/DMU Processing Tool" searches</b> (Please include <a href="mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov">osfoia@ios.doi.gov</a> on all communications/discussions regarding this FOIA request.)	
<b>Action Office:</b> Office of the Secretary	<b>Responsible Program Office:</b> OCO
<b>Current Date:</b> 11/28/2017	<b>Due Date:</b> 12/12/17
<b>FOIA Request Control Number:</b> OS-2018-00262	<b>OS FOIA Contact (MIB 7328):</b> Cindy Sweeney
<b>Requester's Name:</b> Maira McCammon	<b>Amount Requester Is Willing To Pay:</b> Requested Fee Waiver

--

Department of the Interior  
Office of the Secretary, FOIA Office  
[1849 C Street, NW](#), MS-7328  
Washington, D.C. 20240  
[os\\_foia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:os_foia@ios.doi.gov)  
(202) 513-0765 - phone  
(202) 219-2374 - fax

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Department of the Interior  
Office of the Secretary, FOIA Office  
[1849 C Street, NW](#), MS-7328  
Washington, D.C. 20240  
[os\\_foia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:os_foia@ios.doi.gov)  
(202) 513-0765 - phone  
(202) 219-2374 - fax

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Rebecca Matulka  
Deputy Director of Digital  
Interior Department  
202.208.5337

--

Rebecca Matulka  
Deputy Director of Digital  
Interior Department  
202.208.5337

**To:** OS, OS FOIA[osfoia@ios.doi.gov]; Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Shandria Dixon[shandria\_dixon@ios.doi.gov]; Gillick, Larry[larry\_gillick@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Matulka, Rebecca  
**Sent:** 2018-01-08T16:51:32-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Search Request: FOIA Request OS-2018-00403  
**Received:** 2018-01-08T16:51:42-05:00  
[FOIA Control Form \(1.5.18\).pdf](#)  
[18-00403qa.pdf](#)  
[@DOIDepSec 2018-01-08 at 3.55.14 PM.png](#)  
[@Interior 2018-01-08 at 3.57.09 PM.png](#)  
[USInterior Facebook 2018-01-08 at 4.09.56 PM.png](#)

Thanks, Larry.

Also adding Heather, who manages some of the other accounts requested in the FOIA.

Here are screenshots of the blocked accounts. We have no blocked accounts on @Interior or @DOIDepSec. The blocked accounts on Facebook occurred before my time at the Department, so I am not sure why they were blocked.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Best,  
Rebecca

On Mon, Jan 8, 2018 at 3:50 PM, Gillick, Larry <[larry\\_gillick@ios.doi.gov](mailto:larry_gillick@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Groovy.

BTW, I don't manage the social media accounts. You're looking for Rebecca Matulka (CC'd).

Cool?

Larry

---

Larry Gillick

Deputy Director of Digital Strategy

Drupal PaaS Evangelist

U.S. Department of the Interior

202-208-5141 (o) / 202-573-0306 (c)

**Drupal Questions?**

<https://sites.google.com/a/ios.doi.gov/doi-gov-cms/>

On Mon, Jan 8, 2018 at 3:31 PM, OS, OS FOIA <[osfoia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Shandria/Larry,

Please disregard the request for fee estimate.

Karmen

On Mon, Jan 8, 2018 at 3:30 PM, OS, OS FOIA <[osfoia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Hello,

Please be advised, below is our new search request template for you to use going forward.  
We sent an informal request for fee estimate (cost and # of search hours) in November and still need it.

Please let us know if you have any questions.

Thanks/Karmen

The Office of the Secretary Freedom of Information Act Office (OS FOIA) believes you may have responsive records pertaining to the attached

FOIA request.

It is important that we timely and accurately respond to all FOIA requests. The law allows FOIA requesters to shift the costs for collecting and producing responsive records to agencies if we do not respond within 20 days. Also, we want to make sure that we make the right decisions about protecting information where we can under the law and you have the best understanding of what information should be protected given your subject matter expertise. We therefore need and greatly appreciate your assistance in responding to this request.

1. **Open the attached FOIA immediately**
2. **Determine if you have responsive records, both paper and electronic files.**
3. **We have determined that this FOIA request is in the [COMPLEX processing track]. Please use this processing track to set your processing priority, if we have informed you that you have multiple FOIA requests, as discussed in the attached form.**
4. **If you need further assistance in prioritizing multiple searches, please contact OS FOIA.**

**If you have NO RESPONSIVE RECORDS**

- Complete the attached FOIA Control Form indicating no records
- Return the FOIA Control Form as soon as possible so you can be removed from the process

**If you have RESPONSIVE RECORDS**

- Provide *all* responsive records and complete the attached FOIA Control Form
- Provide the documents and the FOIA Control Form to OS FOIA –electronically (CD, via the FOIA/DMU Processing Application, email, or thumb

drive) if possible

## **WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO THE RECORDS I PROVIDE?**

OS FOIA staff will review the records provided. *You may note any records you think are sensitive and describe their sensitivities—see the attached FOIA Control Form.* OS FOIA, in consultation with SOL, will make the final determination on the withholding of documents.

## **HOW CAN I CONTACT THE OS FOIA OFFICE?**

- Phone: (202) 513-0765
- Email: [osfoia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov)
- Office: MIB 7328

**FOIA training opportunities are available**

**EVERY Third Wednesday MIB 7013, 1:30-2:30**

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Department of the Interior  
Office of the Secretary, FOIA Office  
[1849 C Street, NW](#), MS-7328  
Washington, D.C. 20240  
[os\\_foia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:os_foia@ios.doi.gov)  
(202) 513-0765 - phone  
(202) 219-2374 - fax

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Department of the Interior  
Office of the Secretary, FOIA Office  
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Washington, D.C. 20240  
[os\\_foia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:os_foia@ios.doi.gov)  
(202) 513-0765 - phone  
(202) 219-2374 - fax

--

Rebecca Matulka  
Deputy Director of Digital

Interior Department  
202.208.5337

**To:** Wynn, Todd[todd\_wynn@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Laura Rigas[laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov]; Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]; Russell Newell[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov]; Todd Willens[todd\_willens@ios.doi.gov]; Downey Magallanes[downey\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov]; John Tanner[john\_tanner@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Larrabee, Jason  
**Sent:** 2018-01-03T08:52:57-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Seasonal Park Fee comments  
**Received:** 2018-01-03T08:53:04-05:00

The URL is: <https://www.nps.gov/aboutus/foia/foia-frd.htm>

Jason Larrabee  
Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
[1849 C Street, NW](#) -- MIB Room 3154  
Washington, DC 20240  
office: 202-208-4416

NOTE: *Every email I send or receive is subject to release under the Freedom of Information Act.*

On Tue, Jan 2, 2018 at 4:05 PM, Wynn, Todd <[todd\\_wynn@ios.doi.gov](mailto:todd_wynn@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Thanks for the heads up

On Tue, Jan 2, 2018 at 3:54 PM, Larrabee, Jason <[jason\\_larrabee@ios.doi.gov](mailto:jason_larrabee@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

FYI... are going live in a second on NPS website.  
Jason Larrabee  
Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
[1849 C Street, NW](#) -- MIB Room 3154  
Washington, DC 20240  
office: 202-208-4416

NOTE: *Every email I send or receive is subject to release under the Freedom of Information Act.*

--

Todd M. Wynn  
Director of the Office of Intergovernmental and External Affairs  
Office of the Secretary  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
Desk: (202) 208-6649  
Cell: (202) 897-7269

NOTE: *Every email I send or receive is subject to release under the Freedom of Information Act.*



**To:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Esther Whieldon  
**Sent:** 2017-11-03T14:33:51-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Secretarial calendar page down  
**Received:** 2017-11-03T14:34:13-04:00

Thanks

Esther Whieldon  
Reporter  
POLITICO  
(b) (6) (mobile)  
703-672-2788 (office)  
ewhieldon@politico.com  
Twitter: [@esthernow](#)

---

**From:** Swift, Heather <heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, November 3, 2017 2:24 PM  
**To:** Esther Whieldon  
**Cc:** Interior Press  
**Subject:** Re: Secretarial calendar page down

Technical glitch

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Fri, Nov 3, 2017 at 12:46 PM, Esther Whieldon <[ewhieldon@politico.com](mailto:ewhieldon@politico.com)> wrote:

Interior's FOIA page with all the secretarial calendars appears to have been taken down but it doesn't seem any of the other FOIA pages have been taken down. Why is that? Thanks,  
Esther

Esther Whieldon

Reporter

POLITICO

(b) (6) (mobile)

703-672-2788 (office)

[ewhieldon@politico.com](mailto:ewhieldon@politico.com)

Twitter: [@esthernow](https://twitter.com/esthernow)

**To:** Bryan Koenig[bryan.koenig@law360.com]  
**Cc:** Interior Press[Interior\_Press@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Swift, Heather  
**Sent:** 2017-12-14T14:13:03-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: seeking comment: FOIA lawsuit over monuments docs  
**Received:** 2017-12-14T14:14:38-05:00

Bryan a reminder you should direct all questions regarding litigation to DOJ.

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Thu, Dec 14, 2017 at 1:15 PM, Bryan Koenig <[bryan.koenig@law360.com](mailto:bryan.koenig@law360.com)> wrote:

Good afternoon, I'm a Law360 reporter writing about a Freedom of Information Act lawsuit the Conservation Lands Foundation filed yesterday seeking information on the considerations of Bears Ears National Monument and the Gold Butte National Monument I would greatly appreciate comment, would that be possible in the next few hours? Feel free to call.

Thank you for your time,

--

Bryan Koenig

Court Reporter

Legal News & Data  
[111 West 19<sup>th</sup> Street](#)  
5th Floor  
New York, NY 10011  
646.864.4282  
[bryan.koenig@law360.com](mailto:bryan.koenig@law360.com)  
[Follow us on Twitter](#)  
@bkoenig94

**To:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** DuBray, Daniel  
**Sent:** 2017-12-14T13:57:36-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: seeking comment: FOIA lawsuit over monuments docs  
**Received:** 2017-12-14T13:58:23-05:00

Would you like me to tell him that? It was monuments...so I was just making sure you were aware.

d

On Thu, Dec 14, 2017 at 1:51 PM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

We don't comment on litigation

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Thu, Dec 14, 2017 at 1:24 PM, DuBray, Daniel <[ddubray@blm.gov](mailto:ddubray@blm.gov)> wrote:

OCO Friends:  
Will you be responding to this?  
d

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Bryan Koenig** <[bryan.koenig@law360.com](mailto:bryan.koenig@law360.com)>  
Date: Thu, Dec 14, 2017 at 1:12 PM  
Subject: seeking comment: FOIA lawsuit over monuments docs  
To: [ddubray@blm.gov](mailto:ddubray@blm.gov)

Good afternoon, I'm a Law360 reporter writing about a Freedom of Information Act lawsuit the Conservation Lands Foundation filed yesterday seeking information on the considerations of Bears Ears National Monument and the Gold Butte National Monument I would greatly appreciate comment, would that be possible in the next few hours? Feel free to call.

Thank you for your time,

--

Bryan Koenig

Court Reporter

**Legal News & Data**

[111 West 19<sup>th</sup> Street](#)

5th Floor

New York, NY 10011

646.864.4282

[bryan.koenig@law360.com](mailto:bryan.koenig@law360.com)

[Follow us on Twitter](#)

@bkoenig94

--

Dan DuBray

Acting Assistant Director - Communications (WO-600)

Director's Office (Room 5645)

Bureau of Land Management

Department of the Interior

Washington, DC 20240

Office: (202) 208-5207

Twitter: @DuBray

--

Dan DuBray

Acting Assistant Director - Communications (WO-600)

Director's Office (Room 5645)

Bureau of Land Management

Department of the Interior

Washington, DC 20240

Office: (202) 208-5207

Twitter: @DuBray

**To:** Esther Whieldon[ewhieldon@politico.com]  
**Cc:** Interior Press[interior\_press@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Swift, Heather  
**Sent:** 2017-11-01T08:52:48-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Seeking copies of Interior's letter and records to Gowdy  
**Received:** 2017-11-01T08:53:40-04:00

You're welcome to FOIA the documents.

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Tue, Oct 31, 2017 at 10:01 PM, Esther Whieldon <[ewhieldon@politico.com](mailto:ewhieldon@politico.com)> wrote:

Circling back on this. DOE and USDA are among those that have already released copies of their responses. Any chance I can get yours tomorrow?

Esther Whieldon  
Reporter  
POLITICO  
(b) (6) (mobile)  
703-672-2788 (office)  
[ewhieldon@politico.com](mailto:ewhieldon@politico.com)  
Twitter: [@esthernow](https://twitter.com/esthernow)

---

**From:** Esther Whieldon  
**Sent:** Oct 31, 2017 2:28 PM  
**To:** Heather Swift; Interior Press  
**Subject:** Seeking copies of Interior's letter and records to Gowdy

Hi Heather,

Would you please send me a copy of the letters and records provided to House Oversight Committee Chairman Trey Gowdy regarding flights involving senior officials at the Interior? I see Gowdy sent a letter on Oct. 20 asking to get the full records from Interior by Oct. 27th or the agency would face a subpoena for the materials on Nov. 3. See attached.

Thanks, Esther

Esther Whieldon

Reporter

POLITICO

(b) (6) (mobile)

703-672-2788 (office)

[ewhieldon@politico.com](mailto:ewhieldon@politico.com)

Twitter: [@esthernow](https://twitter.com/esthernow)

**To:** Robert Howarth[[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)]; Wolfe, Shane[[shane\\_wolfe@ios.doi.gov](mailto:shane_wolfe@ios.doi.gov)]; Swift, Heather[[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)]  
**From:** Chambers, Micah  
**Sent:** 2017-11-07T11:24:34-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Shane and I are leaving...  
**Received:** 2017-11-07T11:25:22-05:00  
[11-7-17 Nominee Letter - MC.docx](#)

Here's the final. How soon do you think we can get this out? Heather is working on this from comms side, so want to keep them in the loop on timing.

On Mon, Nov 6, 2017 at 8:37 PM, Robert Howarth <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Ok

Sent from my iPhone

On Nov 6, 2017, at 7:00 PM, Chambers, Micah <[micah\\_chambers@ios.doi.gov](mailto:micah_chambers@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

here's the edited version. Secretary reviewing in the morning.

On Mon, Nov 6, 2017 at 5:42 PM, Howarth, Robert <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

we will work with you tomorrow to finalize the letters.

Rob

--

Robert Howarth  
Deputy Director for Correspondence and FOIA Management  
Office of the Executive Secretariat and Regulatory Affairs  
Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20240  
202-208-3181  
202-208-4451 (direct)  
202-549-8961 (cell)

--

Micah Chambers  
Acting Director  
Office of Congressional & Legislative Affairs  
Office of the Secretary of the Interior



<11-7-17 Nominee Letter - MC.docx>

--

Micah Chambers  
Acting Director  
Office of Congressional & Legislative Affairs  
Office of the Secretary of the Interior

**To:** Howarth, Robert[robert\_howarth@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Swift, Heather  
**Sent:** 2017-09-19T16:01:54-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Signed letters  
**Received:** 2017-09-19T16:03:37-04:00

BZ - Richey, MT, population 177. [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Richey,\\_Montana](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Richey,_Montana)

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Tue, Sep 19, 2017 at 4:00 PM, Howarth, Robert <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Let's try that again!

Rob

--

Robert Howarth  
Deputy Director for Correspondence and FOIA Management  
Office of the Executive Secretariat and Regulatory Affairs  
Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20240  
202-208-3181  
202-208-4451 (direct)  
202-549-8961 (cell)

**To:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Hinson, Alex[alex\_hinson@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Adams, Nathan  
**Sent:** 2017-09-15T11:19:32-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Signed SO  
**Received:** 2017-09-15T11:20:19-04:00

Here's the link for the pdf on the website:

[https://www.doi.gov/sites/doi.gov/files/uploads/signed\\_so\\_3356.pdf](https://www.doi.gov/sites/doi.gov/files/uploads/signed_so_3356.pdf)

On Fri, Sep 15, 2017 at 11:12 AM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Attached is the SO that needs to be uploaded and linked to the press release.

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Howarth, Robert <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Date:** Fri, Sep 15, 2017 at 11:07 AM  
**Subject:** Signed SO  
**To:** Heather Swift <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Cc:** "Willens, Todd" <[todd\\_willens@ios.doi.gov](mailto:todd_willens@ios.doi.gov)>

--

Robert Howarth  
Deputy Director for Correspondence and FOIA Management  
Office of the Executive Secretariat and Regulatory Affairs  
Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20240  
202-208-3181  
202-208-4451 (direct)  
202-549-8961 (cell)

--

Nate Adams  
Office of Communications

U.S. Department of the Interior  
202-208-2060

**To:** Moody, Joan[joan\_moody@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Shandria Dixon[shandria\_dixon@ios.doi.gov]; Newell, Russell[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov]; Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Laura Rigas  
**Sent:** 2017-12-11T13:47:54-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: USGS op-ed to Bloomberg Environment  
**Received:** 2017-12-11T13:51:45-05:00

Pls work with Shandria offline. Thx!

Laura Keehner Rigas  
Communications Director  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 897-7022 cell  
@Interior

On Dec 11, 2017, at 1:44 PM, Moody, Joan <[joan\\_moody@ios.doi.gov](mailto:joan_moody@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Will do, What is your schedule? Did you want me to check with AB on hers?

*Joan Moody*  
*Senior Public Affairs Specialist*  
*Office of the Secretary MIB 6226*  
*U.S. Department of the Interior*  
*1849 C Street, N.W.*  
*Washington, D.C. 20240*  
*202-208-3280*  
[Joan\\_Moody@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Joan_Moody@ios.doi.gov)

On Mon, Dec 11, 2017 at 1:16 PM, Laura Rigas <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Let's discuss. Can we set up a meeting on Friday? Thx.

Laura Keehner Rigas  
Communications Director  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 897-7022 cell  
@Interior

On Dec 11, 2017, at 12:38 PM, Moody, Joan <[joan\\_moody@ios.doi.gov](mailto:joan_moody@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Hi, I talked to AB. It had already been submitted to Bloomberg when sent to me last week but she reminded me that the department's policy manual currently leaves it up to the bureau communications chiefs

whether an op ed needs review by OCO. I probably didn't give this as much thought as I should have given it because the subject matter of pavement coatings seemed of interest to a limited audience, but I do think it is important for USGS to (b) (5)

(b) (5) If you would like (b) (5)

(b) (5) . J

*Joan Moody*  
*Senior Public Affairs Specialist*  
*Office of the Secretary MIB 6226*  
*U.S. Department of the Interior*  
*1849 C Street, N.W.*  
*Washington, D.C. 20240*  
*202-208-3280*  
[Joan\\_Moody@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Joan_Moody@ios.doi.gov)

On Mon, Dec 11, 2017 at 12:05 PM, Laura Rigas <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

This is a problem. We need to clear all opeds before they are submitted, not sent as an FYI. Has it already been submitted?

Laura Keehner Rigas  
Communications Director  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 897-7022 cell  
@Interior

On Dec 11, 2017, at 11:35 AM, Moody, Joan <[joan\\_moody@ios.doi.gov](mailto:joan_moody@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

FYI--I meant to send this on Thursday. It was cleared by Solicitor's office

*Joan Moody*  
*Senior Public Affairs Specialist*  
*Office of the Secretary MIB 6226*  
*U.S. Department of the Interior*  
*1849 C Street, N.W.*  
*Washington, D.C. 20240*  
*202-208-3280*  
[Joan\\_Moody@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Joan_Moody@ios.doi.gov)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Wade, Anne-Berry** <[abwade@usgs.gov](mailto:abwade@usgs.gov)>

Date: Wed, Dec 6, 2017 at 7:20 PM  
Subject: Fwd: USGS op-ed to Bloomberg Environment  
To: Joan Moody <[joan\\_moody@ios.doi.gov](mailto:joan_moody@ios.doi.gov)>

Here's another fyi. This email was written to inform Andrea Travnichek in  
Water and Science.

-----

A reporter from Bloomberg Environment contacted the USGS inviting us to submit an Op-Ed about our research associated with pavement sealcoating. This request from Bloomberg came following an article they wrote in Sept. "[Water Monitoring Workload Rises with Pesticides, Contaminants](#)".

That article prompted an industry group, the Pavement Coatings Technology Council (PCTC) to write a letter to the editor - (see attached file "**Final\_edits\_Practitioner Insight Piece on USGS**").

The USGS Water Mission Area as well as the Office of Communications considered this invitation to submit an op-ed from Bloomberg an excellent opportunity to explain our science. Bloomberg wanted to give the USGS equal opportunity as they are giving the PCTC. Bloomberg plans to run the PCTC letter and the USGS op-ed in the same issue.

Attached for your information is our op-ed to Bloomberg Environment - (file name USGS Response to Bloomberg BNA). Our op-ed was written by scientists, has been reviewed and approved by several levels of supervisors/ program managers. It was submitted under Don Cline's name and he has reviewed. He is the Associate Director for the Water Mission Area.

In general, our op-ed explains that USGS conducts unbiased, societally relevant research associated with pavement sealcoating. We provide information and links to already published studies, we explain why the USGS is studying pavement sealcoat and we include specific information about several important studies.

For background, PCTC has long opposed our sealcoat research and has filed a number of FOIAs. As such, we also sought review and approval from Gabe Lohr in the Solicitor's Office. He had no concerns with our op-ed relative to any FOIA litigation.

A.B. Wade  
[USGS](#) Press Officer  
703-648-4483 desk  
703-317-7871 mobile

<USGS Response to Bloomberg BNA.pdf>

<Final\_Edits\_Practitioner Insight Piece on USGS  
(3).pdf>



**To:** Laura Rigas[laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Newell, Russell[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov]; Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Moody, Joan  
**Sent:** 2017-12-11T12:13:17-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: USGS op-ed to Bloomberg Environment  
**Received:** 2017-12-11T12:13:24-05:00

will check

*Joan Moody*  
*Senior Public Affairs Specialist*  
*Office of the Secretary MIB 6226*  
*U.S. Department of the Interior*  
*1849 C Street, N.W.*  
*Washington, D.C. 20240*  
*202-208-3280*  
[Joan\\_Moody@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Joan_Moody@ios.doi.gov)

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Has it already been submitted?

Laura Keehner Rigas  
Communications Director  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 897-7022 cell  
@Interior

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FYI--I meant to send this on Thursday. It was cleared by Solicitor's office

*Joan Moody*  
*Senior Public Affairs Specialist*  
*Office of the Secretary MIB 6226*  
*U.S. Department of the Interior*  
*1849 C Street, N.W.*  
*Washington, D.C. 20240*  
*202-208-3280*  
[Joan\\_Moody@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Joan_Moody@ios.doi.gov)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Wade, Anne-Berry** <[abwade@usgs.gov](mailto:abwade@usgs.gov)>  
Date: Wed, Dec 6, 2017 at 7:20 PM  
Subject: Fwd: USGS op-ed to Bloomberg Environment

To: Joan Moody <[joan\\_moody@ios.doi.gov](mailto:joan_moody@ios.doi.gov)>

Here's another fyi. This email was written to inform Andrea Travnichuk in Water and Science.

-----

A reporter from Bloomberg Environment contacted the USGS inviting us to submit an Op-Ed about our research associated with pavement sealcoating. This request from Bloomberg came following an article they wrote in Sept. "[Water Monitoring Workload Rises with Pesticides, Contaminants](#)".

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A.B. Wade  
[USGS](#) Press Officer  
703-648-4483 desk  
703-317-7871 mobile

<USGS Response to Bloomberg BNA.pdf>

<Final\_Edits\_Practitioner Insight Piece on USGS (3).pdf>

**To:** Laura Rigas[laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Newell Russell[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov]; Swift Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Andrea Travnicek  
**Sent:** 2017-12-10T23:25:17-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: USGS op-ed to Bloomberg Environment  
**Received:** 2017-12-10T23:25:20-05:00

You bet and I have asked who they reached out to.

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 10, 2017, at 9:21 PM, Laura Rigas <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

I've search through my email and don't see anything. This needs to be a request versus an FYI. I will figure this out tomorrow. Thank you!

Laura Keehner Rigas  
Communications Director  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 897-7022 cell  
@Interior

On Dec 10, 2017, at 11:18 PM, Andrea Travnicek <[andrea\\_travnicek@ios.doi.gov](mailto:andrea_travnicek@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

FYI looks like you guys were notified the 6th?

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Judy Nowakowski <[jnowakowski@usgs.gov](mailto:jnowakowski@usgs.gov)>  
**Date:** December 10, 2017 at 8:52:19 PM MST  
**To:** Andrea Travnicek <[andrea\\_travnicek@ios.doi.gov](mailto:andrea_travnicek@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Cc:** Joanne Taylor <[jctaylor@usgs.gov](mailto:jctaylor@usgs.gov)>, William Lukas <[wlukas@usgs.gov](mailto:wlukas@usgs.gov)>  
**Subject:** Fwd: USGS op-ed to Bloomberg Environment

fyi, thanks!

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Anne-Berry Wade <[abwade@usgs.gov](mailto:abwade@usgs.gov)>

**Date:** December 10, 2017 at 10:22:53 PM EST  
**To:** Joanne Taylor <[jctaylor@usgs.gov](mailto:jctaylor@usgs.gov)>  
**Cc:** [bhildebrandt@usgs.gov](mailto:bhildebrandt@usgs.gov), [jnowakowski@usgs.gov](mailto:jnowakowski@usgs.gov), [ljones@usgs.gov](mailto:ljones@usgs.gov),  
[wlukas@usgs.gov](mailto:wlukas@usgs.gov)  
**Subject: Re: USGS op-ed to Bloomberg Environment**

Yes DOI COMM was informed Dec 6. Not sure when Bloomberg plans to run it but should be any day now.

On Sun, Dec 10, 2017 at 1:19 PM Joanne Taylor <[jctaylor@usgs.gov](mailto:jctaylor@usgs.gov)> wrote:

A.B. - Andrea has asked whether or not Laura/DOI Comms was in the loop on this Op-Ed. Just let me know. - Thanks, Joanne

Sent from my iPad

On Wed, Dec 6, 2017 at 5:15 PM,  
Nowakowski, Judy  
<[jnowakowski@usgs.gov](mailto:jnowakowski@usgs.gov)> wrote:

Hi Andrea, please see the note from AB, below, about an Op-Ed we wrote at the invitation of Bloomberg Environment, in response to a letter to the editor submitted by the Pavement Coatings Technology Council (PCTC). The PCTC has long been critical of our research on coal-tar based pavement sealcoating. We'd be happy to brief you on the science involved and the history of our interaction with the PCTC if you'd like, and as always please let us know if you have questions. Thanks!

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Wade, Anne-Berry** <[abwade@usgs.gov](mailto:abwade@usgs.gov)>  
Date: Wed, Dec 6, 2017 at 4:30 PM  
Subject: USGS op-ed to Bloomberg Environment  
To: Judy Nowakowski <[jnowakowski@usgs.gov](mailto:jnowakowski@usgs.gov)>  
Cc: "Jones, Leslie" <[ljones@usgs.gov](mailto:ljones@usgs.gov)>, Gary Rowe  
<[growe@usgs.gov](mailto:growe@usgs.gov)>, Mia Drane-Maury  
<[mdrane-maury@usgs.gov](mailto:mdrane-maury@usgs.gov)>

Judy,

A reporter from Bloomberg Environment contacted the USGS inviting us to submit an Op-Ed about our research associated with pavement sealcoating. This request from Bloomberg came following an article they wrote in Sept. "[Water Monitoring Workload Rises with Pesticides, Contaminants](#)".

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why the USGS is studying pavement sealcoat and we include specific information about several important studies.

For background, PCTC has long opposed our sealcoat research and has filed a number of FOIAs. As such, we also sought review and approval from Gabe Lohr in the Solicitor's Office. He had no concerns with our op-ed relative to any FOIA litigation.

Thanks much. I'll inform DOI Comm as an FYI as well.

A.B. Wade  
[USGS](#) Press Officer  
703-648-4483 desk  
703-317-7871 mobile

--

A.B. Wade  
[USGS](#) Press Officer  
703-648-4483 desk  
703-317-7871 mobile

**To:** Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Laura Rigas[laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov]; Travnicek, Andrea[andrea\_travnicek@ios.doi.gov]; Todd Willens[todd\_willens@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Russell Newell  
**Sent:** 2017-12-10T16:02:21-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: USGS op-ed to Bloomberg Environment  
**Received:** 2017-12-10T16:02:23-05:00

Not ringing a bell

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 10, 2017, at 12:55 PM, Heather Swift <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Had no idea

Heather Swift  
Press Secretary  
Department of the Interior

On Dec 10, 2017, at 12:45 PM, Laura Rigas <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

I was not but looping in Heather and Russ in case I'm missing something. We will need to review it and clear after your review.  
Thx!

Laura Keehner Rigas  
Communications Director  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 897-7022 cell  
@Interior

On Dec 10, 2017, at 12:32 PM, Travnicek, Andrea  
<[andrea\\_travnicek@ios.doi.gov](mailto:andrea_travnicek@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Laura-  
Wanted to check to see if you were briefed by USGS on this?

I am going to get a meeting set up on this.

Thanks.  
Andrea



Andrea Travnicek, Ph.D.  
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Water and Science  
Exercising the Authority of the Assistant Secretary for Water and Science  
Office of the Secretary  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
work: 202-208-0969  
cell: 202-897-7220

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Nowakowski, Judy** <[jnowakowski@usgs.gov](mailto:jnowakowski@usgs.gov)>  
Date: Wed, Dec 6, 2017 at 5:15 PM  
Subject: USGS op-ed to Bloomberg Environment  
To: Andrea Travnicek <[andrea\\_travnicek@ios.doi.gov](mailto:andrea_travnicek@ios.doi.gov)>  
Cc: "Karen (Kerry) Rae" <[kerry\\_rae@ios.doi.gov](mailto:kerry_rae@ios.doi.gov)>, William Werkheiser  
<[whwerkhe@usgs.gov](mailto:whwerkhe@usgs.gov)>, David Applegate  
<[applegate@usgs.gov](mailto:applegate@usgs.gov)>, Joanne Taylor  
<[jetaylor@usgs.gov](mailto:jetaylor@usgs.gov)>, William Lukas  
<[wlukas@usgs.gov](mailto:wlukas@usgs.gov)>

Hi Andrea, please see the note from AB, below, about an Op-Ed we wrote at the invitation of Bloomberg Environment, in response to a letter to the editor submitted by the Pavement Coatings Technology Council (PCTC). The PCTC has long been critical of our research on coal-tar based pavement sealcoating. We'd be happy to brief you on the science involved and the history of our interaction with the PCTC if you'd like, and as always please let us know if you have questions. Thanks!

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Wade, Anne-Berry** <[abwade@usgs.gov](mailto:abwade@usgs.gov)>  
Date: Wed, Dec 6, 2017 at 4:30 PM  
Subject: USGS op-ed to Bloomberg Environment  
To: Judy Nowakowski <[jnowakowski@usgs.gov](mailto:jnowakowski@usgs.gov)>  
Cc: "Jones, Leslie" <[ljones@usgs.gov](mailto:ljones@usgs.gov)>, Gary Rowe <[glrowe@usgs.gov](mailto:glrowe@usgs.gov)>,  
Mia Drane-Maury <[mdrane-maury@usgs.gov](mailto:mdrane-maury@usgs.gov)>

Judy,

A reporter from Bloomberg Environment contacted the USGS inviting us to submit an Op-Ed about our research associated with pavement sealcoating. This request from Bloomberg came following an article they wrote in Sept. "[Water Monitoring Workload Rises with Pesticides, Contaminants](#)".

That article prompted an industry group, the PCTC (Pavement Coatings Technology Council) to write a letter to the editor. (see attached file "**Final\_edits\_Practitioner**

**Insight Piece on USGS").**

The Water Mission Area as well as the Office of Communications considered this invitation to submit an op-ed from Bloomberg an excellent opportunity to explain our science. Bloomberg wanted to give the USGS equal opportunity as they are giving the PCTC. Bloomberg plans to run the PCTC letter and the USGS op-ed in the same issue.

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In general the op-ed explains that USGS conducts unbiased, societally relevant research associated with pavement sealcoating. We provide information and links to already published studies, we explain why the USGS is studying pavement sealcoat and we include specific information about several important studies.

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Thanks much. I'll inform DOI Comm as an FYI as well.

A.B. Wade  
[USGS](#) Press Officer  
703-648-4483 desk  
703-317-7871 mobile

<USGS Response to Bloomberg BNA.pdf>

<Final\_Edits\_Practitioner Insight Piece on USGS  
(3).pdf>

**To:** Laura Rigas[laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Todd Willens[todd\_willens@ios.doi.gov]; Russell Newell[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov]; Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Travnicek, Andrea  
**Sent:** 2017-12-10T12:49:11-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: USGS op-ed to Bloomberg Environment  
**Received:** 2017-12-10T12:49:33-05:00

My understanding is this may have been sent out already. Asking for more information and a meeting on this.

Thanks.

Andrea

Andrea Travnicek, Ph.D.  
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Water and Science  
Exercising the Authority of the Assistant Secretary for Water and Science  
Office of the Secretary  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
work: 202-208-0969  
cell: 202-897-7220

On Sun, Dec 10, 2017 at 12:45 PM, Laura Rigas <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

I was not but looping in Heather and Russ in case I'm missing something. We will need to review it and clear after your review. Thx!

Laura Keehner Rigas  
Communications Director  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 897-7022 cell  
@Interior

On Dec 10, 2017, at 12:32 PM, Travnicek, Andrea <[andrea\\_travnicek@ios.doi.gov](mailto:andrea_travnicek@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Laura-

Wanted to check to see if you were briefed by USGS on this?

I am going to get a meeting set up on this.

Thanks.

Andrea

Andrea Travnicek, Ph.D.  
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Water and Science  
Exercising the Authority of the Assistant Secretary for Water and Science  
Office of the Secretary  
U.S. Department of the Interior

work: 202-208-0969  
cell: 202-897-7220

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Nowakowski, Judy** <[jnowakowski@usgs.gov](mailto:jnowakowski@usgs.gov)>  
Date: Wed, Dec 6, 2017 at 5:15 PM  
Subject: USGS op-ed to Bloomberg Environment  
To: Andrea Travnicek <[andrea\\_travnicek@ios.doi.gov](mailto:andrea_travnicek@ios.doi.gov)>  
Cc: "Karen (Kerry) Rae" <[kerry\\_rae@ios.doi.gov](mailto:kerry_rae@ios.doi.gov)>, William Werkheiser <[whwerkhe@usgs.gov](mailto:whwerkhe@usgs.gov)>, David Applegate <[applegate@usgs.gov](mailto:applegate@usgs.gov)>, Joanne Taylor <[jctaylor@usgs.gov](mailto:jctaylor@usgs.gov)>, William Lukas <[wlukas@usgs.gov](mailto:wlukas@usgs.gov)>

Hi Andrea, please see the note from AB, below, about an Op-Ed we wrote at the invitation of Bloomberg Environment, in response to a letter to the editor submitted by the Pavement Coatings Technology Council (PCTC). The PCTC has long been critical of our research on coal-tar based pavement sealcoating. We'd be happy to brief you on the science involved and the history of our interaction with the PCTC if you'd like, and as always please let us know if you have questions. Thanks!

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Wade, Anne-Berry** <[abwade@usgs.gov](mailto:abwade@usgs.gov)>  
Date: Wed, Dec 6, 2017 at 4:30 PM  
Subject: USGS op-ed to Bloomberg Environment  
To: Judy Nowakowski <[jnowakowski@usgs.gov](mailto:jnowakowski@usgs.gov)>  
Cc: "Jones, Leslie" <[ljones@usgs.gov](mailto:ljones@usgs.gov)>, Gary Rowe <[glrowe@usgs.gov](mailto:glrowe@usgs.gov)>, Mia Drane-Maury <[mdrane-maury@usgs.gov](mailto:mdrane-maury@usgs.gov)>

Judy,

A reporter from Bloomberg Environment contacted the USGS inviting us to submit an Op-Ed about our research associated with pavement sealcoating. This request from Bloomberg came following an article they wrote in Sept. "[Water Monitoring Workload Rises with Pesticides, Contaminants](#)".

That article prompted an industry group, the PCTC (Pavement Coatings Technology Council) to write a letter to the editor. (see attached file "**Final\_edits\_Practitioner Insight Piece on USGS**").

The Water Mission Area as well as the Office of Communications considered this invitation to submit an op-ed from Bloomberg an excellent opportunity to explain our science. Bloomberg wanted to give the USGS equal opportunity as they are giving the PCTC. Bloomberg plans to run the PCTC letter and the USGS op-ed in the same issue.

Attached for your information is our op-ed to Bloomberg Environment - (file name USGS Response to Bloomberg BNA). Our op-ed was written by scientists, has been reviewed and approved by several levels of supervisors/ program managers. It was submitted under Don Cline's

name and he has reviewed

In general the op-ed explains that USGS conducts unbiased, societally relevant research associated with pavement sealcoating. We provide information and links to already published studies, we explain why the USGS is studying pavement sealcoat and we include specific information about several important studies.

For background, PCTC has long opposed our sealcoat research and has filed a number of FOIAs. As such, we also sought review and approval from Gabe Lohr in the Solicitor's Office. He had no concerns with our op-ed relative to any FOIA litigation.

Thanks much. I'll inform DOI Comm as an FYI as well.

A.B. Wade

[USGS](#) Press Officer

703-648-4483 desk

703-317-7871 mobile

<USGS Response to Bloomberg BNA.pdf>

<Final\_Edits\_Practitioner Insight Piece on USGS (3).pdf>

**To:** Laura Rigas[laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Ross, Paul[paul\_ross@ios.doi.gov]; Russell Newell[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Swift, Heather  
**Sent:** 2017-12-20T13:43:20-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Utah trophy permit, urgent question  
**Received:** 2017-12-20T13:44:07-05:00

My two cents is we say on the record that we have always stressed the importance of well-regulated and lawful hunting and permitting process. (b) (5)

[REDACTED]

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Wed, Dec 20, 2017 at 1:38 PM, Laura Rigas <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Heather is lead on this issue.

Laura Keehner Rigas  
Communications Director  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 897-7022 cell  
@Interior

On Dec 20, 2017, at 11:51 AM, Ross, Paul <[paul\\_ross@ios.doi.gov](mailto:paul_ross@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Laura-

Gavin is hoping to get back to the reporter by COB today on this. Are you fine with his recommended approach? I think it makes sense.

**Paul R. Ross**

Senior Public Affairs Specialist  
Office of Communications  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
Office: (202) 501-4633 | Cell: (202) 507-1689

On Tue, Dec 19, 2017 at 4:14 PM, Shire, Gavin <[gavin\\_shire@fws.gov](mailto:gavin_shire@fws.gov)> wrote:

Just checked with IA. He did apply for a permit on which he stated that the elephant was hunted (in 2012) by him. There are three possible scenarios here:

1. (b) (5)
2. (b) (5)

(b) (5)

3. (b) (5)

Either way, he's in a bad spot.

My suggested path here would be to tell the reporter on background what the possibilities are, but that he'd have to FOIA us for access to the Law Enforcement database to know if he did actually import an elephant (I don't know the answer to that yet -- waiting to hear back from OLE).

Thoughts?

G

Gavin Shire  
Chief of Public Affairs  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
MS: EA  
[5275 Leesburg Pike](#)  
[Falls Church, VA 22041](#)-3803  
703-358-2649 (o)  
703-346-9123 (c)  
[gavin\\_shire@fws.gov](mailto:gavin_shire@fws.gov)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Brian Maffly** <[bmaffly@sltrib.com](mailto:bmaffly@sltrib.com)>  
Date: Tue, Dec 19, 2017 at 3:05 PM  
Subject: Utah trophy permit, urgent question  
To: Gavin Shire <[gavin\\_shire@fws.gov](mailto:gavin_shire@fws.gov)>

Hi Gavin, here is the story we posted yesterday and printed today about the elephant trophy controversy. The Utah resident who obtain a trophy permit just called me to say he never killed an elephant and never planned to, rather he sought the permit for a film he is making about trophy hunting. So i'm writing to see if it is legal to obtain an import permit to bring back trophies from an animal hunted by someone else. The application requires the applicant to sign this agreement "I acknowledge that the sport-hunted trophy/trophies to be imported has been/will be personally hunted by me and is being imported only for my personal use."

So my question is how did Mr. Graham get his permit when a) the animal was hunted by someone else and b) the imported trophies are not for his personal use as he is now stating.

Mr Graham (b) (6) and we are updating our story on-line to reflect what he is now telling us regarding his intentions. Thanks for your attention to this.

--

**Brian Maffly**

public lands reporter

[Salt Lake Tribune](#)

[90 S. 400 West, Suite 700](#)

[Salt Lake City, UT 84101](#)

O: [801-257-8713](#)

C: [801-573-2382](#)

Twitter: [@brianmaffly](#)

[Google +](#)

[Facebook](#)

[LinkedIn](#)

[Blog](#)



**To:** Krauss, Jeff[jkrauss@blm.gov]  
**Cc:** Daniel DuBray[ddubray@blm.gov]  
**From:** Heather Swift  
**Sent:** 2017-12-07T22:14:45-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: VICE comment request, re: BLM Flickr FOIA  
**Received:** 2017-12-07T22:14:51-05:00

I'm good. Perhaps just add that multi use has been BLMs mission since day one.

Heather Swift  
Press Secretary  
Department of the Interior

On Dec 7, 2017, at 10:03 PM, Krauss, Jeff <[jkrauss@blm.gov](mailto:jkrauss@blm.gov)> wrote:

Heather,

Below are our proposed responses to VICE. Please let me know if you have any concerns/edits. Once we have an approved response I can send to VICE if requested.

Jeff

- 1) There was no pivot to commercial land use. Rather, we wanted to ensure that our Flickr page reflected our multiple use mandate. We are a multiple use agency and we manage America's public lands for multiple uses--from hiking and seeking backcountry solitude to hunting and fishing and commercial uses such as timber, grazing and energy development. Our Flickr album should accurately portray the myriad uses of public lands and that is the course we embarked upon. Not a pivot, just an effort to ensure the images in our album accurately reflect our multiple use mission.
- 2) Once the monument review began, it was important that we ensure messaging regarding BLM-managed national monuments could not be misconstrued as promoting one point of view over another while the review was underway.

**From:** Sarah Emerson <[sarah.emerson@vice.com](mailto:sarah.emerson@vice.com)>  
**Date:** December 7, 2017 at 1:55:13 PM EST  
**To:** "Swift, Heather" <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)>, <[ddubray@blm.gov](mailto:ddubray@blm.gov)>  
**Subject:** VICE comment request, re: BLM Flickr FOIA

Good afternoon,  
I'm a journalist with VICE, and hope this email finds you well.

We're publishing a story about BLM's pivot to promoting commercial land use on its Flickr page (mypubliclands). I received emails via FOIA that show BLM media staff populating the Flickr page with oil and gas photos, including emails that issue new guidance on promoting o&g,

grazing, mining, timber, etc.

Can BLM or the Interior please comment on the following:

- 1) Who exactly instigated BLM's social media pivot to commercial land use?
- 2) Why were "monuments under review" listed as "sensitive/controversial topics" for social media staff?

Looking forward to hearing from you,  
Sarah

--

SARAH EMERSON  
Writer, MOTHERBOARD  
[@sarahnemerson](https://twitter.com/sarahnemerson)

p: (b) (6)

**To:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Sarah Emerson  
**Sent:** 2017-08-25T10:35:32-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: VICE comment request, re: FOIA Dan Fagre/Mark Zuckerberg mtg  
**Received:** 2017-08-25T11:46:11-04:00

Hi Heather, just following up on this. We're going to press at 11am ET.  
Best,  
Sarah

On 24 August 2017 at 15:19, Sarah Emerson <[sarah.emerson@vice.com](mailto:sarah.emerson@vice.com)> wrote:

Hi Heather,  
I'm a journalist at VICE, and just received documents from USGS pertaining to Dan Fagre's cancelled meeting with Mark Zuckerberg. The documents that I received via a FOIA request include planning emails, correspondence with Facebook, and press inquiries/responses to them.

I have a couple of questions for a story we will be publishing tomorrow morning:

- 1) Who exactly was responsible for cancelling the meeting between Fagre and Zuckerberg? Media reports said that "top officials" at DOI ultimately cancelled it, and I have an email from Fagre in which he says he doesn't know why his participation was cancelled.
- 2) Can you comment on why all press inquiries were forwarded to you? I have emails showing that USGS Comms was not allowed to handle media for stories related to their own climate scientists, and I'm curious to know why.
- 3) Can you comment on why you, specifically, did not want Superintendent Jeff Mow involved with the tour?
- 4) Can you comment on why NPS staff were instructed by Michael Reynolds not to post anything about the tour on social media?

Thanks so much,  
Sarah

--

Sarah Emerson  
Writer, MOTHERBOARD

---



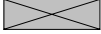
---

VICE Media Group  
90 N. 11th St.  
Brooklyn, NY 11211  
Cell/Signal: (b) (6)  
[@sarahnemerson](https://twitter.com/sarahnemerson)

--

Sarah Emerson  
Writer, MOTHERBOARD

---



---

VICE Media Group  
90 N. 11th St.  
Brooklyn, NY 11211  
Cell/Signal: (b) (6)  
[@sarahnemerson](#)

**To:** Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Interior\_Press@ios.doi.gov[Interior\_Press@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Sydney Pereira  
**Sent:** 2017-11-03T13:48:33-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Immediate deadline: response to lawsuit filed by environmental groups?  
**Received:** 2017-11-03T13:49:12-04:00

Thank you for your quick response. Apart from the lawsuit, I have a few questions: Are the proposals submitted to the White House that were previously reported by the [Washington Post](#) a few months ago expected to be accepted?

When can the public expect to find out whether those proposals will be made official?

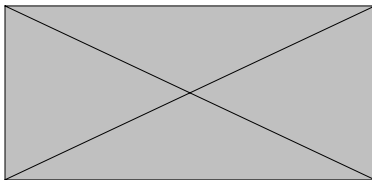
If the boundaries of the four national monuments are expected to shrink, as is proposed, what potential plans does the Interior have to use the lands for "traditional uses," including grazing, mining and timber?

Thank you!

Best,  
Sydney

**Sydney Pereira | Science Writer**  
**NEWSWEEK MEDIA GROUP**  
7 Hanover Square, Floor 5, New York, NY, 10004

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On Fri, Nov 3, 2017 at 1:42 PM, Heather Swift <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Please direct all questions regarding litigation to DOJ.

Heather Swift  
Press Secretary  
Department of the Interior

On Nov 3, 2017, at 1:41 PM, Sydney Pereira <[s.pereira@newsweekgroup.com](mailto:s.pereira@newsweekgroup.com)> wrote:

Hello,

My name is Sydney Pereira -- a reporter for Newsweek. I'm writing about some of the recent proposals surrounding national parks and monuments made by government agencies.

Today environmental groups [filed a lawsuit](#) against the Interior, the Bureau of Land Management, and the Council on Environmental Quality as a result of a lack of response to repeated FOIA requests about national monument changes.

I have a few questions. My deadline is as soon as possible -- ideally before 2:30 pm.

1. Does the agency plan to release the records that were requested by the groups in regards to Bears Ears and other national monuments up for review? If yes, when? If not, why?
2. What is the reason for a lack of response to the FOIA requests?
3. When can the public expect to know when proposal for national monument changes will be accepted or denied?

Thank you for your time.

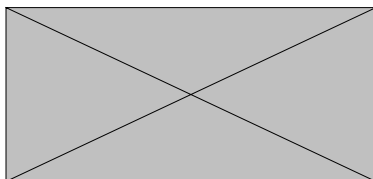
Best,  
Sydney Pereira

Sydney Pereira | Science Writer  
**NEWSWEEK MEDIA GROUP**  
[7 Hanover Square, Floor 5, New York, NY, 10004](#)

T | [+1 646 867 7541](tel:+16468677541)

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**To:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Jorjani, Daniel[daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov]; Timothy Murphy[timothy\_murphy@sol.doi.gov]; Jennifer Heindl[jennifer.heindl@sol.doi.gov]; Rachel Spector[Rachel.Spector@sol.doi.gov]  
**From:** Keable, Edward  
**Sent:** 2017-12-27T10:28:29-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: immediate question - fire  
**Received:** 2017-12-27T10:28:57-05:00

Heather,

In case there is not enough time to fully dive into this issue before you need to response to the reporter, my immediate reaction to this question is that it was (b) (5) [REDACTED].

(b) (5) [REDACTED].

The legal standard, for your information, is whether there is a logical relationship to the appropriation in question and its use. This is called the "necessary expense rule" (b) (5) [REDACTED].

[REDACTED] Also, FYI, there are a couple of other legal considerations for the necessary expense rule but they are not applicable here.

Here, for the reason I mention above, it seems likely to me on the limited information available to me so far is that this (b) (5) [REDACTED].

Please note that I have added Rachel Spector to this email exchange. She is helping me to track down some budget people who might be able to help us to sort through some of the details.

Thanks,

Ed

On Wed, Dec 27, 2017 at 9:55 AM, Keable, Edward <[edward.keable@sol.doi.gov](mailto:edward.keable@sol.doi.gov)> wrote:

Heather,

Can you forward to me any of the supporting documents on this issue? I cannot make a complete legal assessment with the information available with this email exchange.

Specifically, it looks like there was an earlier email exchange between you and this reporter and perhaps some relevant FOIA documents that are not attached to the email I received.

Also, I may need to reach out to someone in the BLM budget office to sort some of this out but I am not sure I will be able to contact anyone today. I will do my best.

Thanks,

Ed

On Wed, Dec 27, 2017 at 9:28 AM, Jorjani, Daniel <[daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov](mailto:daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov)> wrote:

Heather - As both Tim and Jennifer are (b) (6) [REDACTED] adding Ed Keable. Dan

On Wed, Dec 27, 2017 at 9:24 AM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

The deadline is noon today. I'll see if I can get an extension though.

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Wed, Dec 27, 2017 at 9:22 AM, Jorjani, Daniel <[daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov](mailto:daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov)> wrote:

Tim and Jennifer - Please confirm that BLM paid for the trip from the correct account. If BLM paid from another account, please set forth what we need to do to resolve the problem - if it is indeed a problem. CC'ing Heather so that she can be kept in the loop.  
Heather - What is the timeline for a response?

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Swift, Heather** <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)>  
Date: Wed, Dec 27, 2017 at 9:01 AM  
Subject: immediate question - fire  
To: Daniel Jorjani <[daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov](mailto:daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov)>, Russell Roddy <[russell\\_roddey@ios.doi.gov](mailto:russell_roddey@ios.doi.gov)>, "Boulton, Caroline" <[caroline\\_boulton@ios.doi.gov](mailto:caroline_boulton@ios.doi.gov)>, Laura Rigas <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)>, "Magallanes, Downey" <[downey\\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov](mailto:downey_magallanes@ios.doi.gov)>  
Cc: David Bernhardt <[dwbarnhardt@ios.doi.gov](mailto:dwbarnhardt@ios.doi.gov)>, Michael Argo <[michael\\_argo@ios.doi.gov](mailto:michael_argo@ios.doi.gov)>, Scott Hommel <[scott\\_hommel@ios.doi.gov](mailto:scott_hommel@ios.doi.gov)>

I need to know if the helicopter used for the monument review in Nevada was paid for out of the fire aviation budget.

Dear Heather,

Here are my final specific questions (with screenshots attached for clarity). Please let me know if you would like to comment for the story I am writing.

It is our understanding, based on the DOI / BLM email chain(s) I previously showed you and our own email exchanges, that Secretary Zinke was possibly going to visit a fireline in Nevada during his July visit.

In a July 17 exchange, there is a mention that the fireline visit is probably not going to occur because of a scheduling conflict (you later confirmed to me that Sec. Zinke was not able to go.)

On July 18, however, Rudy Evenson writes that "it looks like BLM will be able to pay for the helicopter out of the national fire office in Boise." He forwards an email from Grante Beebe that specifies, "We are going charge FA500 LF100 17X."

Our understanding is that this billing code is specific to wildfire preparedness. The publicly available documents put out by DOI on the Secretary's travel expenses show BLM did in fact pay the cost of the charter helicopter travel.



**Based on our review of this documentation, it appears to us that DOI and BLM used Fire Agency funding to finance a helicopter tour of Nevada monument sites that did not involve the planned trip to a fireline (but did involve a press conference). If you would like to explain otherwise, we invite you to do so.**

Thanks, Celeste

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

--

Edward T. Keable  
Deputy Solicitor-General Law  
Office of the Solicitor  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
Phone: 202-208-4423  
Fax: 202-208-5584  
[edward.keable@sol.doi.gov](mailto:edward.keable@sol.doi.gov)

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Edward T. Keable  
Deputy Solicitor-General Law  
Office of the Solicitor  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
Phone: 202-208-4423  
Fax: 202-208-5584  
[edward.keable@sol.doi.gov](mailto:edward.keable@sol.doi.gov)

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**To:** OS, OS FOIA[osfoia@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Swift, Heather  
**Sent:** 2017-10-24T17:40:47-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Informal Inquiry: 3 FOIA Requests  
**Received:** 2017-10-24T17:41:33-04:00

I have nothing.

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
[@DOIPressSec](mailto:@DOIPressSec)  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Tue, Oct 24, 2017 at 5:35 PM, OS, OS FOIA <[osfoia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Hi Heather,  
Trusting all is well. Called and left a voice message yesterday late afternoon as I am sure you are busy. All three requests are from the same Requester at Politico.

17-01275  
17-01277  
17-01278

Just wanted to find out if you would happen to have records for any of these and/or who would you recommend that we reach out to for additional records.

Please see attached requests, but please give me a call.

Thanks for any assistance you can offer.  
Karmen

--

Department of the Interior  
Office of the Secretary, FOIA Office  
1849 C Street, NW, MS-7328  
Washington, D.C. 20240  
[os\\_foia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:os_foia@ios.doi.gov)  
(202) 513-0765 - phone  
(202) 219-2374 - fax

**To:** Slayton, April[[april\\_slayton@nps.gov](mailto:april_slayton@nps.gov)]  
**From:** Swift, Heather  
**Sent:** 2017-09-29T16:38:37-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Investigative Reporter Reaching Out w/ Urgent Query re: Susan LaPierre  
**Received:** 2017-09-29T16:39:24-04:00

Pardon my language but what an ass!

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
[@DOIPressSec](mailto:@DOIPressSec)  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Fri, Sep 29, 2017 at 4:32 PM, Slayton, April <[april\\_slayton@nps.gov](mailto:april_slayton@nps.gov)> wrote:

Mike - your message to me arrived not 20 minutes ago, so forgive me for being a little put off by the tone of your message and your expectation that courtesy requires an instantaneous response to every message.

As my original message conveyed, the process is managed by the Secretary and his staff, not the National Park Service. Consequently, I don't have any additional information that would warrant a phone conversation at this time, nor do I believe that any of my colleagues at NPS can be helpful in your reporting.

I apologize if you find my work unhelpful, but I prefer to acknowledge reporters who ask questions, even in cases where I am not able to provide information on the topics they are asking about.

April

--

April Slayton  
Assistant Director for Communications  
National Park Service  
Visit us at [www.nps.gov](http://www.nps.gov)

On Fri, Sep 29, 2017 at 4:20 PM, Michael Spies <[mSPIES@thetrace.org](mailto:mSPIES@thetrace.org)> wrote:

The courtesy of a call would be nice. If you actually read the email I sent to Michael, which was fairly explicit, I clearly know who appoints board members. Similarly, if I thought it would be remotely useful to contact a flak at the Interior Department, I obviously would have done that. I don't mean to be rude, but it often feels like people in your position are deliberately trying to be unhelpful.

Mike

On Fri, Sep 29, 2017 at 3:47 PM, Slayton, April <[april\\_slayton@nps.gov](mailto:april_slayton@nps.gov)> wrote:

Dear Mike,

I'm replying to you on behalf of Mike Reynolds, who is traveling this week. Appointments to the National Park Foundation Board are made by the Secretary of the Interior, so your questions about that process are best answered by the DOI Office of Communications. You can reach the team there at [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov).

Many thanks,  
April

--

April Slayton  
Assistant Director for Communications  
National Park Service  
Visit us at [www.nps.gov](http://www.nps.gov)

**From:** Michael Spies <[mspies@thetrace.org](mailto:mspies@thetrace.org)>  
**Date:** September 29, 2017 at 12:09:04 PM EDT  
**To:** <[Michael\\_Reynolds@nps.gov](mailto:Michael_Reynolds@nps.gov)>  
**Subject:** Investigative Reporter Reaching Out w/ Urgent Query re: Susan LaPierre

Dear Mr. Reynolds,

I'm a senior reporter at The Trace ([thetrace.org](http://thetrace.org)), which is an investigative reporting site that covers the gun issue and co-publishes stories with a number of national news outlets, including The New Yorker, Politico, Rolling Stone, and Newsweek. Last month, I broke the story about the appointment of Susan LaPierre (wife of Wayne, the NRA CEO), to the board of the Parks Foundation: <https://www.thetrace.org/2017/08/nra-parks-department-interior-zinke-alaska/>.

I'm still seeking more information on her appointment. I find it odd, for example, that her bio makes no mention of the NRA: <https://www.nationalparks.org/sites/default/files/susan-lapierre.pdf>. It does mention the Women's Leadership Forum, as if it were a standalone entity, which it is not. It's actually called the NRA Women's Leadership Forum, and its chief function is to raise money for the NRA from wealthy women: <http://www.nrawlf.com/>.

Over the spring, when I learned about Susan's appointment, I filed a FOIA request seeking more information about it. That request was fulfilled the other week. If you didn't know, Susan is absolutely not a noted conservationist, and, like her husband, she absolutely does not hunt, and probably does not fish or hike either. The records show that Susan was officially appointed the day before the NRA's April Annual Meeting, where Zinke was slated to speak at the Leadership forum. The records also show that there were backchannel conversations between Chris Cox, the NRA's top lobbyist, and new appointees in the Interior Department about Susan's appointment.

To be frank: much of this doesn't add up or make sense to me, and it feels like there's something bigger going on. If you have any time today, please call me on my cell. I think we should talk. Here's the number: (b) (6) Would be happy to meet you in person.

Best,  
Mike Spies

**To:** Russell Newell[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Laura Rigas[laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov]; Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Wackowski, Stephen  
**Sent:** 2017-10-13T13:48:25-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Izembek  
**Received:** 2017-10-13T13:48:46-04:00

Just one minor clarification: "so that THEY could build a life saving road..." The road would not be funded by us or DOT.

Steve Wackowski  
Senior Adviser for Alaskan Affairs  
Department of the Interior  
1689 C Street, Suite 100  
Anchorage, AK 99501  
907-271-5485

On Fri, Oct 13, 2017 at 1:46 PM, Russell Newell <[russell\\_newell@ios.doi.gov](mailto:russell_newell@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Thank you

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 13, 2017, at 1:41 PM, Laura Rigas <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Thx. Heather and Russ, pls see below.

Laura Keehner Rigas  
Communications Director  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 897-7022 cell  
@Interior

On Oct 13, 2017, at 1:39 PM, Wackowski, Stephen <[stephen\\_wackowski@ios.doi.gov](mailto:stephen_wackowski@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

The Alaska Congressional Delegation, Governor, Mayor of King Cove, King Cove Native Corporation, and affiliated Alaska native tribal entities have asked us to consider a small land exchange to build a life saving road for aeromedical evacuations from King Cove to the all weather airport at Cold Bay. We do not comment on pre-decisional negotiations.

Steve Wackowski  
Senior Adviser for Alaskan Affairs  
Department of the Interior  
[1689 C Street, Suite 100](#)  
[Anchorage, AK 99501](#)  
[907-271-5485](#)

On Fri, Oct 13, 2017 at 11:43 AM, Laura Rigas <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

FYI. Anything we should do to prep for this story?

Laura Keehner Rigas  
Communications Director  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 897-7022 cell  
@Interior

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Heather Swift <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Date:** October 13, 2017 at 9:34:02 AM EDT  
**To:** "Shire, Gavin" <[gavin\\_shire@fws.gov](mailto:gavin_shire@fws.gov)>  
**Cc:** Laura Rigas <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)>, Paul Ross  
<[paul\\_ross@ios.doi.gov](mailto:paul_ross@ios.doi.gov)>, Russell Newell  
<[russell\\_newell@ios.doi.gov](mailto:russell_newell@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Subject: Re: Izembek**

Ah. We all refer to it as king cove rather than by the  
refuge name. Makes sense you'd refer to it by the  
refuge ??

Heather Swift  
Press Secretary  
Department of the Interior

On Oct 13, 2017, at 6:16 AM, Shire, Gavin <[gavin\\_shire@fws.gov](mailto:gavin_shire@fws.gov)> wrote:

This is related to the land swap deal that  
would enable a road to be built through  
Izembek NWR to serve King Cove, a  
distant Alaskan community that says it

needs a road for emergency evacuations (they currently only have an airstrip that is easily shut down by weather conditions). The deal would swap a 200+ acres in the refuge for 62,000+ acres of private lands. Opponents say it would destroy the refuge and isn't necessary. Google Izembek, King Cove and you'll get the full story.  
G

Gavin Shire  
Chief of Public Affairs  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
MS: EA  
[5275 Leesburg Pike](#)  
[Falls Church, VA 22041](#)-3803  
703-358-2649 (o)  
703-346-9123 (c)  
[gavin\\_shire@fws.gov](mailto:gavin_shire@fws.gov)

On Fri, Oct 13, 2017 at 9:11 AM, Laura Rigas  
<[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Thanks, Gavin. It's not ringing a bell for us. Paul, can you please help get us more info?  
My best,  
L

Laura Keehner Rigas  
Communications Director  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 897-7022 cell  
@Interior

On Oct 13, 2017, at 9:00 AM, Shire, Gavin <[gavin\\_shire@fws.gov](mailto:gavin_shire@fws.gov)>  
wrote:

FYI  
G

Gavin Shire  
Chief of Public Affairs  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
MS: EA  
[5275 Leesburg Pike](#)  
[Falls Church, VA 22041](#)-3803  
703-358-2649 (o)  
703-346-9123 (c)



[gavin\\_shire@fws.gov](mailto:gavin_shire@fws.gov)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Barbara Wainman** <[barbara\\_wainman@fws.gov](mailto:barbara_wainman@fws.gov)>

Date: Fri, Oct 13, 2017 at 8:24 AM

Subject: Fwd: Izembek

To: Gavin Shire <[gavin\\_shire@fws.gov](mailto:gavin_shire@fws.gov)>

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Jim  
Kurth  
<[jim\\_kurth@fws.gov](mailto:jim_kurth@fws.gov)>

**Date:** October 12, 2017 at 8:40:12 PM EDT

**To:** [barbara\\_wainman@fws.gov](mailto:barbara_wainman@fws.gov)

**Subject:** Izembek

I understand that there will be a story on Izembek on Sat/Sun in the WaPo page 1. It will reference materials they received in FOIA. Juliet's the reporter. I haven't spoken with her

Sent from my iPhone

**To:** Laura Rigas[laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Shire, Gavin[gavin\_shire@fws.gov]; Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]; Russell Newell[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Ross, Paul  
**Sent:** 2017-10-13T09:16:01-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Izembek  
**Received:** 2017-10-13T09:16:03-04:00

Will do.

**Paul R. Ross**

Senior Public Affairs Specialist  
Office of Communications  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
Office: (202) 501-4633 | Cell: (202) 507-1689

On Fri, Oct 13, 2017 at 9:11 AM, Laura Rigas <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Thanks, Gavin. It's not ringing a bell for us. Paul, can you please help get us more info?  
My best,  
L

Laura Keehner Rigas  
Communications Director  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 897-7022 cell  
@Interior

On Oct 13, 2017, at 9:00 AM, Shire, Gavin <[gavin\\_shire@fws.gov](mailto:gavin_shire@fws.gov)> wrote:

FYI  
G

Gavin Shire  
Chief of Public Affairs  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
MS: EA  
[5275 Leesburg Pike](#)  
[Falls Church, VA 22041-3803](#)  
703-358-2649 (o)  
703-346-9123 (c)  
[gavin\\_shire@fws.gov](mailto:gavin_shire@fws.gov)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Barbara Wainman** <[barbara\\_wainman@fws.gov](mailto:barbara_wainman@fws.gov)>  
Date: Fri, Oct 13, 2017 at 8:24 AM  
Subject: Fwd: Izembek  
To: Gavin Shire <[gavin\\_shire@fws.gov](mailto:gavin_shire@fws.gov)>

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Jim Kurth <[jim\\_kurth@fws.gov](mailto:jim_kurth@fws.gov)>  
**Date:** October 12, 2017 at 8:40:12 PM EDT  
**To:** [barbara\\_wainman@fws.gov](mailto:barbara_wainman@fws.gov)  
**Subject:** Izembek

I understand that there will be a story on Izembek on Sat/Sun in the WaPo page 1. It will reference materials they received in FOIA. Juliet's the reporter. I haven't spoken with her

Sent from my iPhone

**To:** Laura Rigas[laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Russell Newell[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Heather Swift  
**Sent:** 2017-10-13T09:07:36-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Izembek  
**Received:** 2017-10-13T09:07:44-04:00

I don't recall this issue

Heather Swift  
Press Secretary  
Department of the Interior

On Oct 13, 2017, at 6:01 AM, Laura Rigas <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

You guys looped into this? Not ringing a bell for me.

Laura Keehner Rigas  
Communications Director  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 897-7022 cell  
@Interior

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Shire, Gavin" <[gavin\\_shire@fws.gov](mailto:gavin_shire@fws.gov)>  
**Date:** October 13, 2017 at 8:59:58 AM EDT  
**To:** Heather Swift <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)>, Laura Rigas  
<[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)>, Paul Ross <[paul\\_ross@ios.doi.gov](mailto:paul_ross@ios.doi.gov)>,  
Russell Newell <[russell\\_newell@ios.doi.gov](mailto:russell_newell@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Izembek

FYI  
G

Gavin Shire  
Chief of Public Affairs  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
MS: EA  
5275 Leesburg Pike  
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803  
703-358-2649 (o)  
703-346-9123 (c)  
[gavin\\_shire@fws.gov](mailto:gavin_shire@fws.gov)

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Barbara Wainman <[barbara\\_wainman@fws.gov](mailto:barbara_wainman@fws.gov)>

**Date:** Fri, Oct 13, 2017 at 8:24 AM

**Subject:** Fwd: Izembek

**To:** Gavin Shire <[gavin\\_shire@fws.gov](mailto:gavin_shire@fws.gov)>

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Jim Kurth <[jim\\_kurth@fws.gov](mailto:jim_kurth@fws.gov)>

**Date:** October 12, 2017 at 8:40:12 PM EDT

**To:** [barbara\\_wainman@fws.gov](mailto:barbara_wainman@fws.gov)

**Subject:** Izembek

I understand that there will be a story on Izembek on Sat/Sun in the WaPo page 1. It will reference materials they received in FOIA. Juliet's the reporter. I haven't spoken with her

Sent from my iPhone

**To:** Laura Rigas[laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Newell, Russell  
**Sent:** 2017-10-13T09:04:37-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Izembek  
**Received:** 2017-10-13T09:04:39-04:00

not ringing a bell for me at all. will ask for more info from Gavin

Russell Newell  
Deputy Director of Communications  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 208-6232  
@Interior

On Fri, Oct 13, 2017 at 9:01 AM, Laura Rigas <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

You guys looped into this? Not ringing a bell for me.

Laura Keehner Rigas  
Communications Director  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 897-7022 cell  
@Interior

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Shire, Gavin" <[gavin\\_shire@fws.gov](mailto:gavin_shire@fws.gov)>  
**Date:** October 13, 2017 at 8:59:58 AM EDT  
**To:** Heather Swift <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)>, Laura Rigas  
<[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)>, Paul Ross <[paul\\_ross@ios.doi.gov](mailto:paul_ross@ios.doi.gov)>, Russell  
Newell <[russell\\_newell@ios.doi.gov](mailto:russell_newell@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Izembek

FYI  
G

Gavin Shire  
Chief of Public Affairs  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
MS: EA  
[5275 Leesburg Pike](https://www.fws.gov)  
[Falls Church, VA 22041](https://www.fws.gov)-3803  
703-358-2649 (o)  
703-346-9123 (c)  
[gavin\\_shire@fws.gov](mailto:gavin_shire@fws.gov)

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Barbara Wainman <[barbara\\_wainman@fws.gov](mailto:barbara_wainman@fws.gov)>

**Date:** Fri, Oct 13, 2017 at 8:24 AM

**Subject:** Fwd: Izembek

**To:** Gavin Shire <[gavin\\_shire@fws.gov](mailto:gavin_shire@fws.gov)>

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Jim Kurth <[jim\\_kurth@fws.gov](mailto:jim_kurth@fws.gov)>

**Date:** October 12, 2017 at 8:40:12 PM EDT

**To:** [barbara\\_wainman@fws.gov](mailto:barbara_wainman@fws.gov)

**Subject:** Izembek

I understand that there will be a story on Izembek on Sat/Sun in the WaPo page 1. It will reference materials they received in FOIA.

Juliet's the reporter. I haven't spoken with her

Sent from my iPhone

**To:** Juan Carlos Rodriguez[jc.rodriguez@law360.com]  
**Cc:** Interior Press[interior\_press@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Swift, Heather  
**Sent:** 2017-11-16T09:05:43-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Joel Clement lawsuit  
**Received:** 2017-11-16T09:06:34-05:00

Hi Juan, just a reminder, all inquiries regarding litigation should go to DOJ.

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Wed, Nov 15, 2017 at 7:34 PM, Juan Carlos Rodriguez <[jc.rodriguez@law360.com](mailto:jc.rodriguez@law360.com)> wrote:

Hi,

My name is Juan Carlos Rodriguez and I'm a reporter at Law360. Sorry for the late email, I am just starting to write this story about the FOIA lawsuit Joel Clement filed yesterday (complaint attached). Does DOI have any comment?

Thanks.

--

Juan Carlos Rodriguez

Senior Environment Reporter

Legal News & Data  
111 West 19th Street  
5th Floor  
New York, NY 10011  
Office: [646-783-7197](tel:646-783-7197)

Cell: (b) (6)

[Follow me on Twitter](#)

[Follow Law360 on Twitter](#)



**To:** Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Michael Doyle  
**Sent:** 2017-11-14T13:06:02-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** RE: Joel Clement Sues DOI  
**Received:** 2017-11-14T13:06:30-05:00

A-OK

---

**From:** Heather Swift [mailto:heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 14, 2017 1:05 PM  
**To:** Michael Doyle <mdoyle@eenews.net>  
**Subject:** Re: Joel Clement Sues DOI

DOJ

Heather Swift  
Press Secretary  
Department of the Interior

On Nov 14, 2017, at 12:04 PM, Michael Doyle <[mdoyle@eenews.net](mailto:mdoyle@eenews.net)> wrote:

---

**From:** Kendra Barkoff [<mailto:kbarkoff@skdknick.com>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 14, 2017 11:51 AM  
**To:** Kendra Barkoff <[kbarkoff@skdknick.com](mailto:kbarkoff@skdknick.com)>  
**Subject:** Joel Clement Sues DOI

Dear Reporters,

After months being stonewalled by U.S. Interior Secretary Zinke and the Department of the Interior (DOI) today Katherine Atkinson on behalf of her client, Joel Clement, the first [Trump Administration whistleblower](#) filed a lawsuit demanding the release of records relating to the movement of career SES Interior employees. For months, DOI has refused to turn over a single document after more than 30 FOIA requests.

“The Freedom of Information Act was passed in order to reassure Americans that their government was capable of operating in an open and transparent manner,” said Joel Clement. “It is remarkable the extent to which the Trump Administration is working to keep their deliberations behind closed doors. We know these documents exist and we know the public has a right to see them, but Secretary Zinke and his staff are determined to work in secret and take the ‘public’ out of public service.” Read the lawsuit [HERE](#).

Please let me know if you are interested in speaking with Joel or

Katherine.  
Kendra

Kendra Barkoff | SKDKnickerbocker  
1150 18th Street, Suite 800 | Washington, D.C., 20036  
o: 202.464.9531 | c: (b) (6) | [kbarkoff@skdknick.com](mailto:kbarkoff@skdknick.com)  
[www.SKDKnick.com](http://www.SKDKnick.com)

**To:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Nachmany, Eli[eli\_nachmany@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Newell, Russell  
**Sent:** 2017-12-21T09:18:15-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: latest SO?  
**Received:** 2017-12-21T09:18:23-05:00

thank you

Russell Newell  
Deputy Director of Communications  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 208-6232  
@Interior

On Thu, Dec 21, 2017 at 9:12 AM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Howarth, Robert** <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)>  
Date: Thu, Dec 21, 2017 at 8:55 AM  
Subject: Re: latest SO?  
To: "Swift, Heather" <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)>

attached...it is in redline. Please accept all changes to make it clean.

Rob

On Thu, Dec 21, 2017 at 8:28 AM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

--

Robert Howarth

Deputy Director for Correspondence and FOIA Management  
Office of the Executive Secretariat and Regulatory Affairs  
Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20240  
202-208-3181  
202-208-4451 (direct)  
202-549-8961 (cell)

**To:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Howarth, Robert  
**Sent:** 2017-12-21T08:55:53-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: latest SO?  
**Received:** 2017-12-21T08:56:00-05:00  
[17 11 27 SOL COMBINED review of S O Critical Minerals.docx](#)

attached...it is in redline. Please accept all changes to make it clean.

Rob

On Thu, Dec 21, 2017 at 8:28 AM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
[@DOIPressSec](mailto:@DOIPressSec)  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

--

Robert Howarth  
Deputy Director for Correspondence and FOIA Management  
Office of the Executive Secretariat and Regulatory Affairs  
Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20240  
202-208-3181  
202-208-4451 (direct)  
202-549-8961 (cell)

**To:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Robert Howarth[Robert\_Howarth@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Lillie, Juliette  
**Sent:** 2017-08-02T14:35:31-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Leading by example: CMR Wildlife Refuge is a good neighbor in Montana  
**Received:** 2017-08-02T14:35:38-04:00

Hi Heather: As mentioned in the previous email, we do not include the article in the body of a sentence preceding an acronym except on rare occasion.

Julie

Juliette Lillie  
Director Executive Secretariat and Regulatory Affairs  
Department of the Interior  
1849 C St. NW  
Washington DC 20240

Email: [juliette\\_lillie@ios.doi.gov](mailto:juliette_lillie@ios.doi.gov)  
Ph: 202-219-7724

On Wed, Aug 2, 2017 at 1:29 PM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

and the "the" issue?

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Wed, Aug 2, 2017 at 1:28 PM, Lillie, Juliette <[juliette\\_lillie@ios.doi.gov](mailto:juliette_lillie@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Heather, We have a handbook in our Departmental Manual,(382 DM 5). When referring to a specific state, we capitalize the specific name of the (e.g. Montana) state as well or the short form of a proper noun, thus, State, when it is clear what state we are talking about. For example, we would capitalize the word Government, after having referred to the Federal Government earlier in the document, or when it is obvious it is the Federal Government. Cherokee Nation, would become the Nation. Page 62 of our Manual describes the proper usages.

Hope that helps  
Julie

Juliette Lillie  
Director Executive Secretariat and Regulatory Affairs  
Department of the Interior

1849 C St. NW  
Washington DC 20240

Email: [juliette\\_lillie@ios.doi.gov](mailto:juliette_lillie@ios.doi.gov)  
Ph: 202-219-7724

On Wed, Aug 2, 2017 at 1:15 PM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Thanks -

I was actually referring to why is it upper case? Families were facing a litany of bad options: calves going to market early and underweight, selling heifers from generations of working bloodlines, raising fewer calves next year, and the very real fear of knowing that some cattle still would not make it through the winter. Donations of hay were coming in from **all over the State**, but it was not enough to sustain thousands of cattle for several months.

Is there a writing style guide that says we don't use "the" before an acronym? It just seems very off to not include it. If the words were written out you would use "the" before the name of the refuge. For example:

One small bright spot that remained was Charles M. Russell Wildlife Refuge.

One small bright spot that remained was the Charles M. Russell Wildlife Refuge.

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Wed, Aug 2, 2017 at 1:00 PM, Lillie, Juliette <[juliette\\_lillie@ios.doi.gov](mailto:juliette_lillie@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Heather: Rob forwarded your message to me. Here is the response to your questions:  
We left state in lower case because it is in a quote. In terms the article "the", we do not include it in the body of a sentence preceding an acronym except on rare occasion.

Juliette Lillie  
Director Executive Secretariat and Regulatory Affairs  
Department of the Interior  
1849 C St. NW  
Washington DC 20240

Email: [juliette\\_lillie@ios.doi.gov](mailto:juliette_lillie@ios.doi.gov)  
Ph: 202-219-7724

-----  
----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Swift, Heather** <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)>  
Date: Wed, Aug 2, 2017 at 11:31 AM  
Subject: Fwd: Leading by example: CMR Wildlife Refuge is a good neighbor in Montana  
To: "Howarth, Robert" <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)>

Hey there, Rob. Strange question but who is the person who does the grammar editing at Exec Sec? There's a number of irregularities in this. For instance, deleting "the" in front of CMR and then capitalizing S in state when not referring to the State of Montana as a governing body.

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Interior, Secretary** <[secretary\\_of\\_the\\_interior@ios.doi.gov](mailto:secretary_of_the_interior@ios.doi.gov)>  
Date: Wed, Aug 2, 2017 at 10:29 AM  
Subject: Leading by example: CMR Wildlife Refuge is a good neighbor in Montana  
To:



U.S. Department of the Interior

Good morning. I want to take a few minutes to highlight the amazing work of a few members of the Department of the Interior family.

Last week, the team at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Charles M. Russell National Wildlife Refuge (CMR) in northeast Montana went above and beyond the call of duty when they, led by Refuge manager Paul Santavy, took quick action to open up CMR for emergency grazing for ranchers who lost land in the 270,000-acre Lodgepole Complex Fire.

While our Bureau of Land Management and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service fire crews were working with volunteers to battle the blaze, the team at CMR was hard at work with local ranchers, elected officials, and concerned citizens to come up with a solution to the massive loss of grazing land.

Families were facing a litany of bad options: calves going to market early and underweight, selling heifers from generations of working bloodlines, raising fewer calves next year, and the very real fear of knowing that some cattle still would not make it through the winter. Donations of hay were coming in from all over the State, but it was not enough to sustain



thousands of cattle for several months.

One small bright spot that remained was CMR. The land, which was previously a ranch, had been grazed several years before and was now sitting there, a lush green oasis with a stable water supply in the midst of a charred desert.

A local farm equipment dealer wrote to me and the Service's Acting Director Greg Sheehan about opening up CMR. The equipment dealer did not have cattle, but many of her neighbors and customers did; she heard about their situation because every morning folks gather at her store at dawn for coffee.

The CMR management did not have to open the land to ranchers, but they did. The team at CMR felt strongly that they are as much a part of the community as those ranchers, and the CMR team was dedicated to proving that the Service and Department are good neighbors.

That is what is at the heart of this. We have a saying that "Montana is one small town with really long roads." The Department is a neighbor in that small town.

I have been able to visit many of you in Nevada, California, Utah, Colorado, Alaska, Virginia, Montana, and elsewhere. You have heard me talk about restoring trust between the Federal Government and local communities by being a good neighbor. The events at CMR are exactly what I mean.

I am so incredibly proud of the team at CMR and the Service's leadership. From the Refuge manager hosting public meetings and working with families on an individual basis, to the rangers and public affairs officers assisting the efforts and getting the word out, everyone stepped up to the plate and hit it out of the park. The team in Washington, D.C. also played a key role in keeping open the lines of communication.

The Sunday paper had a story about CMR; a statement by a local rancher and farmer stuck with me: "They're our heroes today. We're just thankful the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service came to our aid. And everyone else, too. Everyone across the nation and the support from across the state. It's overwhelming. Garfield County just wants to give a big thank you to everyone who is supporting us."

That is the reaction I want us to earn every day.

I applaud the quick work and flexibility of the team at CMR for getting this done for the community in a compliant manner. Their example is an example to all of us.

Every day we hear of a rancher, or a mom-and-pop guide shop, or a local official who is looking for our help with an allotment, access to land, or a permit. I know you are all working hard on your normal day-to-day duties, and many times there is nothing we can do. Once in a while, though, we can help and we can change the outcome for one community. That is a win.

Thank you for all you do.

Ryan K. Zinke  
Secretary of the Interior

--

Robert Howarth  
Deputy Director for Correspondence and FOIA Management  
Office of the Executive Secretariat and Regulatory Affairs  
Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20240  
202-208-3181  
202-208-4451 (direct)  
202-549-8961 (cell)

**To:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Kaprice Tucker[kaprice.tucker@sol.doi.gov]; Campbell, Joshua[joshua.campbell@sol.doi.gov]; Keable, Edward[edward.keable@sol.doi.gov]; Karen Richardson[karen.richardson@sol.doi.gov]; Jorjani, Daniel[daniel\_jorjani@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Laura Rigas  
**Sent:** 2017-07-25T16:03:43-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Legal Reviews  
**Received:** 2017-07-25T16:03:51-04:00

Me too. Apparently the leader needs to join first. Thx!

Laura Keehner Rigas  
Communications Director  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 897-7022 cell  
@Interior

On Jul 25, 2017, at 1:01 PM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

I'm on the horn.

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Tue, Jul 25, 2017 at 3:01 PM, Kaprice Tucker <[kaprice.tucker@sol.doi.gov](mailto:kaprice.tucker@sol.doi.gov)> wrote:

I will be able to call in after 3:30 as well.

Kaprice

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 25, 2017, at 12:58 PM, Campbell, Joshua <[joshua.campbell@sol.doi.gov](mailto:joshua.campbell@sol.doi.gov)> wrote:

My schedule has filled up some. I will be in meetings until about 3:30. But I am free after that.

On Tue, Jul 25, 2017 at 12:25 PM, Laura Rigas <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Thanks, Ed. I can make myself available today from 2-5pm ET but not sure of the availability of others on this email. Happy to suggest we set up a meeting for when you return if that's easier for all.

My best,  
L

Laura Keehner Rigas  
Communications Director  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 897-7022 cell  
@Interior

On Jul 25, 2017, at 6:13 AM, Keable, Edward <[edward.keable@sol.doi.gov](mailto:edward.keable@sol.doi.gov)>  
wrote:

Laura,

Sorry for the late response. Happy to talk today before I go (b) (6) tomorrow through the end of next week. Just let me know your availability and I will set something up. Thanks.

Ed

On Fri, Jul 21, 2017 at 6:33 PM, Laura Rigas <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)>  
wrote:

Thank you, Ed. We would be delighted to work with you. I've had a close working relationship with past OGC's at other departments and would love the same with you and your team at SOL.

Might a call or meeting be helpful to connect quickly about process? Should we set that up next week? I'm on travel but happy to call in.

My best,  
L

Laura Keehner Rigas  
Communications Director  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 897-7022 cell  
@Interior

On Jul 21, 2017, at 4:28 PM, Keable, Edward <[edward.keable@sol.doi.gov](mailto:edward.keable@sol.doi.gov)>  
wrote:

Lori, Heather,

General Law has in the past two administrations provided legal services to the Office of Communications to review draft press statements

that related to personnel litigation toward the goal of ensuring public comments are consistent with the Department's litigation posture and, of course, accuracy.

We would be happy to continue to do so for your team if you think that would be helpful. If you do think it would be helpful for us to provide you this drafting review service, I would ask you to forward all such draft press material to Associate Solicitor-General Law Kaprice Tucker, Employment and Labor Law Unit Director Karen Richardson, and me. This would help us to expedite our reviews as I know you often work on deadline.

This service is also available for press materials related to FOIA, FACA, procurement, torts, and intellectual property litigation. Tim Murphy would replace Karen on FOIA and FACA litigation matters and Jim Weiner would replace her on procurement, torts, and intellectual property litigation matters.

I would be happy to talk to you about this kind of support if you have any questions.  
Thanks.

Ed

--

Edward T. Keable  
Deputy Solicitor-General Law  
Office of the Solicitor  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
Phone: 202-208-4423  
Fax: 202-208-5584  
[edward.keable@sol.doi.gov](mailto:edward.keable@sol.doi.gov)

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--

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*immediately and destroy all copies. Thank you.*

**To:** Laura Rigas[laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Keable, Edward[edward.keable@sol.doi.gov]; Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]; Harris, Kaprice[kaprice.tucker@sol.doi.gov]; Karen Richardson[karen.richardson@sol.doi.gov]; daniel\_jorjani@ios.doi.gov[daniel\_jorjani@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Joshua Campbell  
**Sent:** 2017-07-21T19:20:24-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Legal Reviews  
**Received:** 2017-07-21T19:20:36-04:00

Thanks

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 21, 2017, at 7:18 PM, Laura Rigas <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

And adding Dan and Josh. Thx!

Laura Keehner Rigas  
Communications Director  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 897-7022 cell  
@Interior

On Jul 21, 2017, at 4:34 PM, Laura Rigas <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Thank you, Ed. We would be delighted to work with you. I've had a close working relationship with past OGC's at other departments and would love the same with you and your team at SOL. Might a call or meeting be helpful to connect quickly about process? Should we set that up next week? I'm on travel but happy to call in.  
My best,  
L

Laura Keehner Rigas  
Communications Director  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 897-7022 cell  
@Interior

On Jul 21, 2017, at 4:28 PM, Keable, Edward <[edward.keable@sol.doi.gov](mailto:edward.keable@sol.doi.gov)> wrote:

Lori, Heather,

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We would be happy to continue to do so for your team if you think that would be helpful. If you do think it would be helpful for us to provide you this drafting review service, I would ask you to forward all such draft press material to Associate Solicitor-General Law Kaprice Tucker, Employment and Labor Law Unit Director Karen Richardson, and me. This would help us to expedite our reviews as I know you often work on deadline.

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I would be happy to talk to you about this kind of support if you have any questions. Thanks.

Ed

--

Edward T. Keable  
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U.S. Department of the Interior  
Phone: 202-208-4423  
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**To:** Keable, Edward[edward.keable@sol.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]; Harris, Kaprice[kaprice.tucker@sol.doi.gov]; Karen Richardson[karen.richardson@sol.doi.gov]; daniel\_jorjani@ios.doi.gov[daniel\_jorjani@ios.doi.gov]; joshua.campbell@sol.doi.gov[joshua.campbell@sol.doi.gov]  
**From:** Laura Rigas  
**Sent:** 2017-07-21T19:17:57-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Legal Reviews  
**Received:** 2017-07-21T19:18:09-04:00

And adding Dan and Josh. Thx!

Laura Keehner Rigas  
Communications Director  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 897-7022 cell  
@Interior

On Jul 21, 2017, at 4:34 PM, Laura Rigas <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Thank you, Ed. We would be delighted to work with you. I've had a close working relationship with past OGC's at other departments and would love the same with you and your team at SOL.  
Might a call or meeting be helpful to connect quickly about process? Should we set that up next week? I'm on travel but happy to call in.  
My best,  
L

Laura Keehner Rigas  
Communications Director  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 897-7022 cell  
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On Jul 21, 2017, at 4:28 PM, Keable, Edward <[edward.keable@sol.doi.gov](mailto:edward.keable@sol.doi.gov)> wrote:

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General Law has in the past two administrations provided legal services to the Office of Communications to review draft press statements that related to personnel litigation toward the goal of ensuring public comments are consistent with the Department's litigation posture and, of course, accuracy.

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I would be happy to talk to you about this kind of support if you have any questions. Thanks.

Ed

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**To:** Laura Rigas[laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Heather Swift  
**Sent:** 2017-07-21T19:08:36-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Legal Reviews  
**Received:** 2017-07-21T19:08:43-04:00

I'm concerned Jorjani and Josh are not on this email. I always go through them with all inquiries and they go to Ed.

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 21, 2017, at 6:34 PM, Laura Rigas <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

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Ed

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**To:** Keable, Edward[edward.keable@sol.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]; Harris, Kaprice[kaprice.tucker@sol.doi.gov]; Karen Richardson[karen.richardson@sol.doi.gov]  
**From:** Laura Rigas  
**Sent:** 2017-07-21T18:33:59-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Legal Reviews  
**Received:** 2017-07-21T18:34:10-04:00

Thank you, Ed. We would be delighted to work with you. I've had a close working relationship with past OGC's at other departments and would love the same with you and your team at SOL. Might a call or meeting be helpful to connect quickly about process? Should we set that up next week? I'm on travel but happy to call in.

My best,  
L

Laura Keehner Rigas  
Communications Director  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 897-7022 cell  
@Interior

On Jul 21, 2017, at 4:28 PM, Keable, Edward <[edward.keable@sol.doi.gov](mailto:edward.keable@sol.doi.gov)> wrote:

Lori, Heather,

General Law has in the past two administrations provided legal services to the Office of Communications to review draft press statements that related to personnel litigation toward the goal of ensuring public comments are consistent with the Department's litigation posture and, of course, accuracy.

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I would be happy to talk to you about this kind of support if you have any questions. Thanks.

Ed

--

Edward T. Keable  
Deputy Solicitor-General Law  
Office of the Solicitor  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
Phone: 202-208-4423  
Fax: 202-208-5584  
[edward.keable@sol.doi.gov](mailto:edward.keable@sol.doi.gov)

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**To:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Howarth, Robert  
**Sent:** 2017-07-25T10:15:44-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Letter for surname  
**Received:** 2017-07-25T10:15:51-04:00

Ok, many thanks

On Tue, Jul 25, 2017 at 9:56 AM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Yep, was in a meeting with the Secretary.

Parents

(b) (6)

Brother

(b) (6)

Wife

(b) (6)

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Tue, Jul 25, 2017 at 9:41 AM, Howarth, Robert <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Hi Heather...do you have the information for me?

Thanks, Rob

On Mon, Jul 24, 2017 at 6:44 PM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Rob, the letter attached is going to the wife, parents, and brother of a fallen marine. I have a document with their personal information. Do you need that now or when you are ready to get it signed?

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

--

Robert Howarth  
Deputy Director for Correspondence and FOIA Management  
Office of the Executive Secretariat and Regulatory Affairs  
Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20240  
202-208-3181  
202-208-4451 (direct)  
202-549-8961 (cell)

--

Robert Howarth  
Deputy Director for Correspondence and FOIA Management  
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Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20240  
202-208-3181  
202-208-4451 (direct)  
202-549-8961 (cell)



**To:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Howarth, Robert  
**Sent:** 2017-07-25T04:51:57-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Letter for surname  
**Received:** 2017-07-25T04:51:58-04:00

Good morning Heather...I'm back from PA. Could you send me the info now so I can finalize the letter.

Thanks, Rob

On Mon, Jul 24, 2017 at 6:44 PM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Rob, the letter attached is going to the wife, parents, and brother of a fallen marine. I have a document with their personal information. Do you need that now or when you are ready to get it signed?

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

--

Robert Howarth  
Deputy Director for Correspondence and FOIA Management  
Office of the Executive Secretariat and Regulatory Affairs  
Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20240  
202-208-3181  
202-208-4451 (direct)  
202-549-8961 (cell)

**To:** Howarth, Robert[robert\_howarth@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Swift, Heather  
**Sent:** 2017-11-09T15:47:40-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Letter to Dick Durbin for Surname  
**Received:** 2017-11-09T15:48:27-05:00

damn. wanted to get it out in today's news

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Thu, Nov 9, 2017 at 3:46 PM, Howarth, Robert <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Awaiting surnames from Mr. Bernhardt and Dan...who said will not be able to review until later...defer to David.

Rob

On Thu, Nov 9, 2017 at 3:43 PM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Checking on the status of this.

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Thu, Nov 9, 2017 at 2:02 PM, Micah Chambers <[micah\\_chambers@ios.doi.gov](mailto:micah_chambers@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Whenever it's done and ready to send, shoot me a scan of it and I'll email to Durbin staff

Sent from my iPhone

On Nov 9, 2017, at 2:01 PM, Magallanes, Downey <[downey\\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov](mailto:downey_magallanes@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

pls see boss edits team- Rob this is for circulation to Bernhardt and Jorjani

On Thu, Nov 9, 2017 at 1:46 PM, Downey Magallanes  
<[downey\\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov](mailto:downey_magallanes@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Have edits from boss

On Nov 9, 2017, at 1:12 PM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Rob - attached is a letter drafted by Downey/Micah from Secretary to Senator Durbin following up on the letter Durbin sent to Micah. Per Downey's instruction to me, can you please put this through surname for today? It needs to go through Bernhardt and Jorjani.

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

<11-9-17 Durbin Response - MC.docx>

--

Downey Magallanes  
Deputy Chief of Staff for Policy  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
[downey\\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov](mailto:downey_magallanes@ios.doi.gov)  
202-706-9199

<11-9-17 Durbin Response - MC.docx>

--

Robert Howarth  
Deputy Director for Correspondence and FOIA Management  
Office of the Executive Secretariat and Regulatory Affairs  
Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20240  
202-208-3181  
202-208-4451 (direct)  
202-549-8961 (cell)

**To:** Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Crandall, Megan  
**Sent:** 2017-10-12T15:35:11-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Marijuana on federal lands  
**Received:** 2017-10-12T15:35:56-04:00

Apparently DOJ gave her an exclusive a while back on a raid, which subsequently got the ball rolling on this and she hasn't let go.

On Thu, Oct 12, 2017 at 2:01 PM, Heather Swift <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

That's what I was feeling. Good call.

Heather Swift  
Press Secretary  
Department of the Interior

On Oct 12, 2017, at 10:44 AM, Crandall, Megan <[mcrandal@blm.gov](mailto:mcrandal@blm.gov)> wrote:

Heather, this reporter has been actively trying to pit fed drug law vs state drug law for some time. I am sending her back to CO BLM to direct her to FOIA the data she wants. It's the best route at this point and this looks like it is meant to be a "gotcha" story designed to create controversy if her previous inquiries are any indication. Just wanted you to know.  
M

On Thu, Oct 12, 2017 at 10:53 AM, Heather Swift <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

CO looking for info

Sent from my iPad

---

**From:** Wilcox, Katie  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 21, 2017 3:04 PM  
**To:** '[Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)' <[Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Subject:** Marijuana on federal lands

Good afternoon,

My name is Katie Wilcox, I am a producer with 9NEWS in Denver, and I am looking for information related to any citations or other enforcement actions taken against individuals using marijuana on federal lands in Colorado. I would like to know about the possible penalties – what is the fine, is there possible jail time, and how much has been collected on the tickets? How many tickets have been written in Colorado so far this year?

Please give me a call back at your earliest convenience to further discuss my inquiry. I look forward to your prompt response.

Thank you,

KATIE WILCOX

Producer



A **TEGNA** Company | 500 Speer Blvd, Denver, CO 80203

[Katie.wilcox@9news.com](mailto:Katie.wilcox@9news.com)

Phone: 720-651-0044

--

**Megan M. Crandall**  
Bureau of Land Management  
Communications

Ph: 801-539-4018

Cell: 385-315-5271  
Fax: 801-539-4013

**Join the Conversation!**

--

**Megan M. Crandall**  
Bureau of Land Management  
Communications

Ph: 801-539-4018

Cell: 385-315-5271  
Fax: 801-539-4013

**Join the Conversation!**

**To:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Interior\_Press@ios.doi.gov[Interior\_Press@ios.doi.gov]; Whittle, Patrick[PWhittle@ap.org]  
**From:** McDermott, Jennifer  
**Sent:** 2017-10-26T11:51:26-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** RE: marine monument report request  
**Received:** 2017-10-26T11:51:37-04:00

Hi Heather,

Thank you for the quick response. Is a FOIA request necessary? I was hoping you could send me the documents I'm looking for, which would obviously be quicker.

It also wasn't clear to me why governmental documents and reports like this wouldn't be publicly released. What is the reason for withholding this report?

Jennifer

Jennifer McDermott  
Reporter  
The Associated Press - Providence  
JMcDermott@ap.org  
Twitter @JenMcDermottAP  
401-274-2270 office  
401-490-7108 direct  
(b) (6) cell

**From:** Swift, Heather [mailto:heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 26, 2017 11:45 AM  
**To:** McDermott, Jennifer <JMcDermott@ap.org>  
**Cc:** Interior\_Press@ios.doi.gov; Whittle, Patrick <PWhittle@ap.org>  
**Subject:** Re: marine monument report request

Jennifer, it sounds like you're putting in a FOIA request. Please do so here: <https://www.doi.gov/foia>

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Thu, Oct 26, 2017 at 11:37 AM, McDermott, Jennifer <[JMcDermott@ap.org](mailto:JMcDermott@ap.org)> wrote:

Hello,

I'm hoping you can provide me with a copy of a report sent by U.S. Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke to the White House on marine monuments.

The report is mentioned in this Washington Post story from August.

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/energy-environment/wp/2017/08/24/interior-secretary-recommends-trump-alter-a-handful-of-national-monuments-but-declines-to-reveal-which->

[ones/?utm\\_term=.660d33a81c17](#)

It looks as though a report summary was released in August. I am requesting the full report, with the Secretary's recommendations and any addendums and attachments sent by U.S. Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke to the White House in August 2017 on marine monuments.

I would also like a copy of any written correspondence the Department of the Interior has received from the White House about the report on marine monuments and the Secretary's recommendations, following the report's transmission in August.

My colleague, Patrick Whittle, and I are working on this topic together and he is cc'd on this email.

I'm hoping you can forward me these materials by COB Friday, 10/27/17.

If for some reason the department is not making the full report public, please explain why not. If you believe it is exempted from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, which exemption are you using?

Thank you for your help with this.  
Jennifer

Jennifer McDermott  
Reporter  
The Associated Press - Providence  
[JMcDermott@ap.org](mailto:JMcDermott@ap.org)  
Twitter @JenMcDermottAP  
401-274-2270 office  
401-490-7108 direct  
(b) (6) cell

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**To:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Puckett, Catherine  
**Sent:** 2017-07-21T17:00:31-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Media Inquiry, USGS proposed Response: USGS SES Reassignments  
**Received:** 2017-07-21T17:01:18-04:00

Yes, I heard great things about the visit too -- so that's wonderful.  
Catherine

??Catherine Puckett  
Deputy Public Affairs Officer  
USGS Office of Communications  
352-377-2469 (O) 352-278-0165 (cell)  
[cpuckett@usgs.gov](mailto:cpuckett@usgs.gov)

On Fri, Jul 21, 2017 at 4:57 PM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Awesome. Thanks for keeping us looped in. PS - sounds like Z's USGS visit in Denver went great!

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Fri, Jul 21, 2017 at 4:56 PM, Puckett, Catherine <[cpuckett@usgs.gov](mailto:cpuckett@usgs.gov)> wrote:

Of course. I didn't promise it to him today, said I'd try to find out the answers.

??Catherine Puckett  
Deputy Public Affairs Officer  
USGS Office of Communications  
352-377-2469 (O) 352-278-0165 (cell)  
[cpuckett@usgs.gov](mailto:cpuckett@usgs.gov)

On Fri, Jul 21, 2017 at 4:53 PM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Thanks, Catherine. Given the recent whistleblower action I'd like to run this by SOL first.

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Fri, Jul 21, 2017 at 4:52 PM, Puckett, Catherine <[cpuckett@usgs.gov](mailto:cpuckett@usgs.gov)> wrote:

We checked with our HR leads and our chief FOIA official to make sure what information is public/available to any citizen who asks. It does include all of the information he asked about. I can't say that we have received a lot of such inquiries from media but we have definitely received some, even about salaries and GS levels, which are also public. Catherine

[REDACTED]

??Catherine Puckett  
Deputy Public Affairs Officer  
USGS Office of Communications  
352-377-2469 (O) 352-278-0165 (cell)  
[cpuckett@usgs.gov](mailto:cpuckett@usgs.gov)

On Fri, Jul 21, 2017 at 4:31 PM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Is it common for bureaus/department to give such detailed personnel information?

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Fri, Jul 21, 2017 at 4:26 PM, Puckett, Catherine <[cpuckett@usgs.gov](mailto:cpuckett@usgs.gov)> wrote:

Joan, Laura and Heather:

We have received two media questions from Adam Federman, a reporting fellow at the Investigative Fund for the Nation Institute.

**The first: Have the Cooperative Agreements for the Climate Adaptation Science Centers been signed by DOI? (They were recently signed.) Here is our**

**response, to be sent to reporter on Monday since we are still notifying the centers:** "We are pleased that the Cooperative Agreements for the Climate Adaptation Science Centers were approved by the Department of the Interior."  
Douglas Beard, acting director

**The second (deadline today):**

**Who are the USGS SES employees who were directly reassigned (names , titles/positions , responsibilities), where were they reassigned to (office , position )**

**and did they take the reassignment or not?**

Note: We verified that official employee present and past job titles, their names, ranks, duty stations, and position descriptions are public information.

**Question for DOI:**

**USGS**

**can**

**provide this information to him or**

**DOI can; we are fine doing so, of course.**

**If**

**he has follow-up questions in the DOI lane, we will refer him to the DOI press office.**

**USGS Response, Question 2:**

Three members of our Senior Executive Service (SES) were part of DOI's recent reassignments. They are:

José Aragon - formerly Associate Director for Administration, USGS responsible to the Director and Deputy Director for leadership planning and the strategic direction of administrative, business, financial, and human capital policies and programs in support of the science and information mission of the USGS.

New position: Senior Advisor to the Deputy Assistant Secretary-Business, Finance, Performance and Acquisition. Albuquerque, NM. Effective 7/9/2017.

Barbara Wainman - formerly the Associate Director for Communication and Publishing responsible for developing communications strategies, providing oversight and guidance for the USGS web and social media presence, and leadership in implementing constituent and employee relations strategies.  
New position: Assistant Director-External Affairs, Fish and Wildlife Service.  
Washington, DC. Effective 7/9/2017.

Dr. Virginia Burkett - formerly Associate Director for Climate and Land Use Change responsible for the strategic direction of scientific research, monitoring, remote sensing, modeling, synthesis, and forecasting to interpret consequences of climate and land use change to the Nation's biological populations, ecosystems, and land and water resources.  
Proposed Directed Reassignment: Senior Advisor to the Assistant Secretary-Water and Science. Washington, DC. (declined)

New position: Ecologist. USGS, Office of the AD for Climate and Land Use Change. Many, LA. Effective 7/9/2017.

Catherine (Acting for AB Wade)

??Catherine Puckett  
Deputy Public Affairs Officer  
USGS Office of Communications  
352-377-2469 (O) 352-278-0165 (cell)  
[cpuckett@usgs.gov](mailto:cpuckett@usgs.gov)

**To:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Moody, Joan[joan\_moody@ios.doi.gov]; Laura Rigas[laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov]; ljones[ljones@usgs.gov]; Anne-Berry Wade[abwade@usgs.gov]  
**From:** Puckett, Catherine  
**Sent:** 2017-07-21T16:54:28-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Media Inquiry, USGS proposed Response: USGS SES Reassignments  
**Received:** 2017-07-21T16:55:17-04:00

Just saw your email, Heather. We will hold off responding until we hear from you again. Have a good weekend . . . Catherine

??Catherine Puckett  
Deputy Public Affairs Officer  
USGS Office of Communications  
352-377-2469 (O) 352-278-0165 (cell)  
[cpuckett@usgs.gov](mailto:cpuckett@usgs.gov)

On Fri, Jul 21, 2017 at 4:52 PM, Puckett, Catherine <[cpuckett@usgs.gov](mailto:cpuckett@usgs.gov)> wrote:

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[cpuckett@usgs.gov](mailto:cpuckett@usgs.gov)

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-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Fri, Jul 21, 2017 at 4:26 PM, Puckett, Catherine <[cpuckett@usgs.gov](mailto:cpuckett@usgs.gov)> wrote:

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Douglas Beard, acting director

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Note: We verified that official employee present and past job titles, their names, ranks, duty stations, and position descriptions are public information.

**Question for DOI:**

**USGS**

**can**

**provide this information to him or DOI can; we are fine doing so, of course.**

**If**

**he has follow-up questions in the DOI lane, we will refer him to the DOI press office.**

**USGS Response, Question 2:**

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New position: Senior Advisor to the Deputy Assistant Secretary-Business, Finance, Performance and Acquisition. Albuquerque, NM. Effective 7/9/2017.

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Proposed Directed Reassignment: Senior Advisor to the Assistant Secretary-Water and Science. Washington, DC. (declined)

New position: Ecologist. USGS, Office of the AD for Climate and Land Use Change. Many, LA. Effective 7/9/2017.

Catherine (Acting for AB Wade)

??Catherine Puckett  
Deputy Public Affairs Officer  
USGS Office of Communications  
352-377-2469 (O) 352-278-0165 (cell)  
[cpuckett@usgs.gov](mailto:cpuckett@usgs.gov)

**To:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Crandall, Megan  
**Sent:** 2017-07-26T12:36:53-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: MEDIA INQUIRY: Center for Biological Diversity lawsuit  
**Received:** 2017-07-26T12:36:59-04:00

It's CBD ... lol

On Wed, Jul 26, 2017 at 12:29 PM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Thanks Meg - you're spot on to not comment on litigation. They are just trying to bait by attacking the Secretary personally. It's a silly gimmick.

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Wed, Jul 26, 2017 at 12:26 PM, Crandall, Megan <[mcrandal@blm.gov](mailto:mcrandal@blm.gov)> wrote:

Hi, Heather. I already responded to the reporter that we don't offer comment on issues pertaining to pending litigation, but I wanted to share this since with you since it looks like the story based on the CBD release will have a negative tone.

M

----- Forwarded message -----

Hello,

I'm writing an article on the amended lawsuit by Center for Biological Diversity against the BLM, and now the DOI, concerning the agency's alleged failure to release certain public documents. I've attached a link to the release below. In a follow up phone call, a spokesperson for the environmental group told me that the failure to respond or release information concerning the FOIA request was due to Sec. Zinke exerting more control over the agency.

He said, specifically:

"Their lack of response and our continued outreach to them clearly indicates that they don't want to answer us or they are clearly incompetent."

"While I don't know this, I suspect that the Department of the Interior has been told at higher up levels to not deal with these things or to deal with them in a very specific way."



I'm putting this out by 1 p.m., so it would be great to hear from you by then.

Best,

--

Joshua Learn  
Reporter, Coal  
S&P Global Market Intelligence  
S&P Global  
703 373 0660  
[Josh.Learn@spglobal.com](mailto:Josh.Learn@spglobal.com)

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--

**Megan M. Crandall**  
Bureau of Land Management  
Communications

Ph: 801-539-4018

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**Join the Conversation!**

--

**Megan M. Crandall**  
Bureau of Land Management  
Communications

Ph: 801-539-4018

Cell: 385-315-5271

Fax: 801-539-4013

**Join the Conversation!**

**To:** Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** interior\_press@ios.doi.gov[interior\_press@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Scott Streater  
**Sent:** 2017-12-12T12:59:30-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Media Inquiry: FOIA lawsuit  
**Received:** 2017-12-12T12:59:52-05:00

Will do thanks.

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 12, 2017, at 10:57 AM, Heather Swift <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Please contact DOJ regarding litigation

Heather Swift  
Press Secretary  
Department of the Interior

On Dec 12, 2017, at 12:49 PM, Scott Streater <[ssreater@eenews.net](mailto:ssreater@eenews.net)> wrote:

Heather,  
I just received the press release below my contact information regarding a federal lawsuit alleging that Interior has violated FOIA laws by not responding to a request for documents related to Matthew Allen's reassignment to BSEE in September. Lawsuit was filed today. Allen was BLM communications director until September, I believe.

Does Interior have any comment? If you cannot comment, per ongoing litigation, please let me know. Thanks.

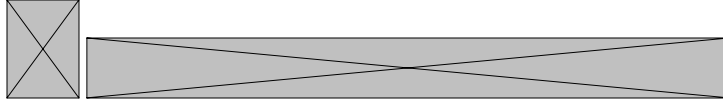
I need to file no later than 3 p.m., Eastern time, today.

Scott Streater  
E&E News reporter  
[ssreater@eenews.net](mailto:ssreater@eenews.net)  
719-264-0923 (office)  
(b) (6) (mobile)

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**E&E NEWS**

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Energywire, Climatewire, Greenwire, E&E Daily, E&E News PM



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 12, 2017

Contact: Katherine Atkinson, [katherine@wilkenfeldlaw.com](mailto:katherine@wilkenfeldlaw.com), (202)765-2253

Washington, D.C. - The law firm of Wilkenfeld, Herendeen & Atkinson announced today that it has filed suit in U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia against the Department of the Interior for failing to release records related to the demotion and reassignment of Matthew Allen, one of its Senior Executive Service employees. The lawsuit marks the second time in as many months that the firm has been forced to sue the DOI for failing to release records as required under the Freedom of Information Act.

The FOIA request, which was submitted to the DOI on Tuesday, October 10th, seeks documents related to the suspicious late September removal of Mr. Allen as the communications director at the Bureau of Land Management, as well as the nature of his subsequent reassignment to a non-specific public affairs role at the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement. Under the Freedom of Information Act, federal agencies have 20 business days to respond to information requests with the option of a 10 day extension.

“Federal agencies are required to release documents and records in a timely manner as part of their responsibility to transparency to the American people,” said Katherine Atkinson, Mr. Allen’s attorney. “Unfortunately, the DOI has once again failed to uphold this responsibility to the detriment of both my client and the public.”

Allen, an outspoken proponent for America’s public lands and recreational access, was selected for the top BLM communications position during the final months of the Obama administration. In this role he provided leadership to over 100 communications professionals across the country in public relations, legislative affairs, and external and regulatory affairs. He was removed from the position just weeks after more than 30 Senior Executives were also shuffled, which is currently being investigated by the Inspector General at the request of congress. Allen was replaced by a former Bush-era appointee amidst a flurry of whistleblowing and media reports of leaked documents from within the BLM and the DOI.

“My client’s demotion reeks of reprisal, and these documents will provide us the tools we require to prove that,” said Ms. Atkinson. “We look forward to uncovering what they are trying to hide.”

#####

1731 Connecticut Avenue NW | Third Floor | Washington, DC 20009 (t) 202.765.2253 | (f) 202.600.2792 | [wilkenfeldlaw.com](http://wilkenfeldlaw.com)

**To:** Julian, Gregory[gregory.julian@bsee.gov]  
**Cc:** Laura Rigas[laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov]; Russell Newell[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov]; Alex Hinson[alex\_hinson@ios.doi.gov]; Frank Quimby[frank\_quimby@ios.doi.gov]; Eileen Angelico[eileen.angelico@bsee.gov]  
**From:** Swift, Heather  
**Sent:** 2017-12-11T13:47:59-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Media Queries - Wall Street Journal  
**Received:** 2017-12-11T13:48:46-05:00

TY

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Mon, Dec 11, 2017 at 1:46 PM, Julian, Gregory <[gregory.julian@bsee.gov](mailto:gregory.julian@bsee.gov)> wrote:

To all,

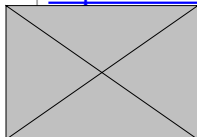
I received two queries from Ted Mann, Wall Street Journal:

1. Has the well-control rule language been finalized? I'm hearing it was sent to OIRA. Could we see it? I informed him that the WCR revision won't be available until it goes to Federal Register.
2. I hear there are two reports out on Taylor; the Norbit survey, and the Marine Safety Lab Final Report. Can I see those? Our solicitors recommended that we require Ted to submit a FOIA for the reports - so I have just told him that.

Best,  
Greg

--

**Greg Julian**  
Press Secretary  
Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement  
O: 202-208-6184  
M: 202-412-8375  
[Gregory.Julian@bsee.gov](mailto:Gregory.Julian@bsee.gov)  
<http://www.bsee.gov/> | <https://www.linkedin.com/company/bureau-of-safety-and-environmental-enforcement>  
| <https://twitter.com/BSEEGov> | <https://www.facebook.com/BSEEGov/>



**To:** Lee, Stephen[stephenlee@bna.com]  
**Cc:** Interior\_Press@ios.doi.gov[Interior\_Press@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Swift, Heather  
**Sent:** 2017-07-26T15:54:11-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Media query  
**Received:** 2017-07-26T15:55:03-04:00

Please contact DOJ for all questions regarding litigation.

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Wed, Jul 26, 2017 at 3:03 PM, Lee, Stephen <[stephenlee@bna.com](mailto:stephenlee@bna.com)> wrote:

Hi there. Do you guys have any comment on this? I'm writing a story about it today and am on deadline for 3:30. Apologies for the short notice.

Stephen Lee  
Reporter  
Bloomberg BNA  
Direct 703-341-3698  
Mobile (b) (6)  
[stephenlee@bna.com](mailto:stephenlee@bna.com)

---

From: Patrick Sullivan <[psullivan@biologicaldiversity.org](mailto:psullivan@biologicaldiversity.org)>  
Sent: Wednesday, July 26, 2017 10:46 AM  
Subject: Lawsuit Seeks Public Records on Trump Administration's Collusion With Coal Industry  
To: Lee, Stephen <[stephenlee@bna.com](mailto:stephenlee@bna.com)>

Hi Stephen: Please let me or Bill know if you want a copy of the legal complaint in this case.  
Thanks, Patrick, 415-517-9364  
Center for Biological Diversity

For Immediate Release, July 26, 2017

Contact: William Snape, (202) 536-9351, [bsnape@biologicaldiversity.org](mailto:bsnape@biologicaldiversity.org)

Lawsuit Seeks Public Records on Trump Administration's Collusion With Coal Industry

WASHINGTON— The Center for Biological Diversity today sued the Trump administration for failing to provide public records about closed-door meetings between the U.S. Department of the Interior and fossil-fuel industry executives over the reversal of the Obama

administration's "pause" on coal extraction on federal public lands.

The Center filed a Freedom of Information Act request in March after Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke revoked an order issued by former Secretary Sally Jewell that halted most new coal-leasing activities pending the first comprehensive review of the program in almost 40 years. Neither the Interior Department nor the Bureau of Land Management have complied with the request for public records.

"If Trump and Zinke had nothing to hide, they'd comply with our simple request to release meeting records," said Bill Snape, senior counsel with the Center. "Instead the Trump administration continues to plot with fossil fuel executives in secret, making decisions that hurt public health and affect the future of all Americans."

Despite the coal program's drain on the federal treasury and its significant contribution to climate change, Zinke ended review of the leasing program on March 27 and directed the Interior Department and the BLM "to process coal lease applications and modifications expeditiously." His order followed numerous accounts of clandestine meetings between top Trump administration officials and coal industry lobbyists.

The Center's FOIA request seeks all communications between top Interior officials and the coal industry. The BLM has completely ignored the request and is now months overdue with a response as required by federal law. The Interior Department said it had received the "complex" request, but is now months late with a lawful response.

"Ryan Zinke has turned the Department of the Interior into the Department of Special Interests," said Snape. "The public has every right to know who Zinke and his staff are meeting with, especially when it comes to policies that will have disastrous consequences for our public lands and climate. But time after time, Zinke appears to be putting the American people last."

The Center for Biological Diversity is a national, nonprofit conservation organization with more than 1.3 million members and online activists dedicated to the protection of endangered species and wild places.

[www.biologicaldiversity.org](http://www.biologicaldiversity.org)



**To:** Timothy Cama[tcama@thehill.com]  
**Cc:** interior\_press@ios.doi.gov[interior\_press@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Swift, Heather  
**Sent:** 2017-11-03T10:34:17-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Monuments review FOIA lawsuit  
**Received:** 2017-11-03T10:35:08-04:00

Please direct all questions regarding litigation to DOJ

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Fri, Nov 3, 2017 at 10:17 AM, Timothy Cama <[tcama@thehill.com](mailto:tcama@thehill.com)> wrote:

Hi folks-

Did you want to comment on the FOIA lawsuit for the national monuments review? <https://earthjustice.org/news/press/2017/earthjustice-files-lawsuit-against-federal-agencies-for-withholding-information-on-national-monuments-from-the>

Thanks.

--

Timothy Cama, Staff writer  
The Hill  
(202) 695-6245  
Secure: [timothy.cama@protonmail.com](mailto:timothy.cama@protonmail.com)

**To:** Wainman, Barbara[barbara\_wainman@fws.gov]  
**Cc:** Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]; Russell Newell[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov]; Ross, Paul[paul\_ross@ios.doi.gov]; Gavin Shire[gavin\_shire@fws.gov]; Huggler, Matthew[matthew\_huggler@fws.gov]; Charisa Morris[charisa\_morris@fws.gov]  
**From:** Laura Rigas  
**Sent:** 2017-12-19T10:57:20-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: New Process - High Interest/Media Requests  
**Received:** 2017-12-19T10:57:29-05:00

Many thx.

Laura Keehner Rigas  
Communications Director  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 897-7022 cell  
@Interior

On Dec 19, 2017, at 10:56 AM, Wainman, Barbara <[barbara\\_wainman@fws.gov](mailto:barbara_wainman@fws.gov)> wrote:

Laura in response to last week's elephant issue Gavin has already met with our FOIA folks and taken this step to improve the process. He and I are going to be meeting with them on a regular basis to stay in close coordination with them. We got the most updated FOIA report and to give you an idea of the magnitude there are 405 open FOIA requests so it is no small task but we are working to improve the process. I have also begun talking to our Chief of Staff about how this process works and we are looking at some more systemic changes as well. We will keep you posted of anything we think may hit the media that would be of interest to you all.

Barbara W. Wainman  
Assistant Director, External Affairs  
US Fish and Wildlife Service  
(202) 208-5256 (office)  
(571) 471-4159 (cell)

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Hyde-Michaels, Carrie <[carrie\\_hyde-michaels@fws.gov](mailto:carrie_hyde-michaels@fws.gov)>  
**Date:** Tue, Dec 19, 2017 at 10:21 AM  
**Subject:** New Process - High Interest/Media Requests  
**To:** FWS FOIA Coordinators <[fws\\_foia\\_coordinators@fws.gov](mailto:fws_foia_coordinators@fws.gov)>  
**Cc:** Kenneth Taylor <[kenneth\\_taylor@fws.gov](mailto:kenneth_taylor@fws.gov)>, Shelley Hartmann <[shelley\\_hartmann@fws.gov](mailto:shelley_hartmann@fws.gov)>

Good morning,

We need to make some changes to our process to ensure that our External Affairs office is informed when we make a FOIA release that may be reported in the national news. Please read this entire email carefully.

**EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY:** If you receive any requests from national news outlets (New York Times, CNN, etc.) or requests on any topics that are highly controversial, **you must notify me 24 hours prior to the release.** I will confirm receipt, so if you have not heard back from me, do not make the release.

This applies to both interim releases and final releases, whether they are full releases, releases with redactions, or releases that will be withheld in full.

Here is a partial list of topics where External Affairs must be notified before release:

**African Lion**  
**Elephant**  
**Red Wolf**  
**Mexican Wolf**  
**Grizzly Bear**  
**SES moves**  
**Border Wall**  
**Izembek NWR**  
**Arctic NWR**  
**Malheur NWR**  
**Pesticide Consultations**  
**African Wildlife Consultative Forum**

**National Monuments** - reminder that OS is coordinating these requests, so please let me know on the front end if you receive any new requests related to national monuments. We will still perform the search for these requests.

This list is not exhaustive, but is intended to give you an idea of the types of topics that will now require notification. I am also attaching a marked up spreadsheet of all current FWS Open requests - please review the highlighted requests for any that may apply to your office or region, because there are a few additional specific requests where External Affairs would like to be notified when a release will be made.

**Process:**

1. Email to FWS FOIA Officer - request letter, release letter, the documents as they will be released (if the volume is high, please provide a representative sample as an attachment to the email - not on the Google Drive)
2. FWS FOIA Officer will confirm receipt and inform External Affairs of the pending release, so they are aware of what is going out and can be prepared for any potential media inquiries we may receive.
3. FWS FOIA Officer will confirm to you that the release can be made.

If you have any questions about whether a particular topic would be of interest to External Affairs, please feel free to ask. We will be working closely with them for the first few months to ensure that we are providing them with information that is

useful to them.

This change was requested at the AD level, so if you have any concerns, please let me know immediately so we can ensure that everyone has all the information they need to fully comply.

Thank you,  
Carrie Hyde-Michaels  
FWS FOIA Officer  
Chief, Branch of FOIA, Records, Privacy  
US Fish & Wildlife Service Headquarters  
703-358-2291 (direct)

**To:** Celeste Katz[c.katz@newsweekgroup.com]  
**From:** Swift, Heather  
**Sent:** 2017-12-27T16:27:19-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Newsweek - travel questions  
**Received:** 2017-12-27T16:28:07-05:00

Because there are more appropriate accounts.

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Wed, Dec 27, 2017 at 4:23 PM, Celeste Katz <[c.katz@newsweekgroup.com](mailto:c.katz@newsweekgroup.com)> wrote:

Thanks again. Is that because the account to which it was originally billed is specific to wildfire preparedness?

On Wed, Dec 27, 2017 at 4:20 PM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

There are different accounts for different functions and it's the Department's position that there are more appropriate accounts to fit this particular expenditure.

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Wed, Dec 27, 2017 at 4:09 PM, Celeste Katz <[c.katz@newsweekgroup.com](mailto:c.katz@newsweekgroup.com)> wrote:

Thanks for sorting through all of that. Can you explain to me why this was an error ?

On Wed, Dec 27, 2017 at 3:59 PM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Thanks for your patience. I have confirmed with all applicable offices that the cost was charged to the account in error. The Department has asked the BLM to pay the invoice out of a more appropriate account.

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec

[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Wed, Dec 27, 2017 at 12:34 PM, Celeste Katz <[c.katz@newsweekgroup.com](mailto:c.katz@newsweekgroup.com)> wrote:

Hi Heather: Yes, of course I realize that there was a weekend and holiday in there. I did see your away message, but considering how far we had gotten in our discussions, I thought it best to continue to deal directly with you than to start from scratch with someone else in your office. I did follow up with an email yesterday, but perhaps it fell through the post-holiday cracks. Again, I appreciate your help.

On Wed, Dec 27, 2017 at 12:29 PM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Celeste, as you mention, you contacted me six days ago, I have been corresponding with you regularly and giving you information as it is received. Note, one of those days was a major holiday and two were weekend days. I had an away message up Friday and Tuesday with instructions on how to reach my colleagues. I will continue to look into this for you however it requires me talking with people who know about accounting and travel approvals at DOI. As much as I'd like to have all the answers for you off the top of my head, I simply don't. I will have an answer for you soon.

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Wed, Dec 27, 2017 at 12:24 PM, Celeste Katz <[c.katz@newsweekgroup.com](mailto:c.katz@newsweekgroup.com)> wrote:

Hi, Heather. Can I please get an update? Or if there is someone else I should speak with, I'm glad to do that as well.

I first contacted DOI about this story now six days ago, so I feel I have been reasonable in allowing for response time and scrupulous in explaining the direction of the story.

As I said, the bottom line here is that from the documents I have reviewed, both in the FOIL collection I sent you and publicly available on the DOI website, it appears that wildfire prevention-related money was used to finance the Nevada helicopter trip although the fireline visit was removed from the itinerary.

It also appears that this billing setup was created immediately after the decision not to visit the fireline, so it was not a case of setting up wildfire-related billing and then having to cancel that part of the trip at the last minute.

I do not see in the documents nor have I heard from you anything that would contradict the sequence of events I have just described, so unless you can tell me otherwise, this is what we plan to publish.

Looking forward to your response, CK

On Wed, Dec 27, 2017 at 9:38 AM, Celeste Katz <[c.katz@newsweekgroup.com](mailto:c.katz@newsweekgroup.com)> wrote:

Thank you. Looking to wrap up today.

On Wed, Dec 27, 2017 at 9:25 AM Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Looking into this.

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Fri, Dec 22, 2017 at 4:20 PM, Celeste Katz <[c.katz@newsweekgroup.com](mailto:c.katz@newsweekgroup.com)> wrote:

Dear Heather,

Here are my final specific questions (with screenshots attached for clarity). Please let me know if you would like to comment for the story I am writing.

It is our understanding, based on the DOI / BLM email chain(s) I previously showed you and our own email exchanges, that Secretary Zinke was possibly going to visit a fireline in Nevada during his July visit.

In a July 17 exchange, there is a mention that the fireline visit is probably not going to occur because of a scheduling conflict (you later confirmed to me that Sec. Zinke was not able to go.)

On July 18, however, Rudy Evenson writes that "it looks like BLM will be able to pay for the helicopter out of the national fire office in Boise." He forwards an email from Grante Beebe that specifies, "We are going charge FA500 LF100 17X."

Our understanding is that this billing code is specific to wildfire preparedness. The publicly available documents put out by DOI on the Secretary's travel expenses show BLM did in fact pay the cost of the charter helicopter travel.

**Based on our review of this documentation, it appears to us that DOI and BLM used Fire Agency funding to finance a helicopter tour of**

**Nevada monument sites that did not involve the planned trip to a fireline (but did involve a press conference). If you would like to explain otherwise, we invite you to do so.**

Thanks, Celeste

On Fri, Dec 22, 2017 at 11:47 AM, Celeste Katz <[c.katz@newsweekgroup.com](mailto:c.katz@newsweekgroup.com)> wrote:

Hi Heather, just wanted to make sure you saw my below question. I would appreciate an answer to this one specific thing, which is NOT explained in the documents to which you referred me. Thanks, CK

On Thu, Dec 21, 2017 at 4:08 PM Celeste Katz <[c.katz@newsweekgroup.com](mailto:c.katz@newsweekgroup.com)> wrote:

Ok, I think I have found what I was looking for (which I have attached as a screenshot from [here](#)).

If I am on the right page, the craft was a helicopter contracted with/from Papillon Airways. Specifically, it says "Mission flights paid by BLM."

In a July 18 email from the documents I sent you this morning, there is this line: "It looks like BLM will be able to pay for the helicopter out of the national fire office in Boise."

**How can I find out if BLM did in fact "pay for the helicopter out of the national fire office in Boise"?**

Can you tell me, or is there someone at BLM I should ask instead ?

Thanks for your help, CK

On Thu, Dec 21, 2017 at 3:19 PM, Celeste Katz <[c.katz@newsweekgroup.com](mailto:c.katz@newsweekgroup.com)> wrote:

Me again: Is this a standard message on the FOIA Reports Library page?

"At this time, archival documents may not be 100% accessible."

On Thu, Dec 21, 2017 at 3:05 PM, Celeste Katz <[c.katz@newsweekgroup.com](mailto:c.katz@newsweekgroup.com)> wrote:

Ok, I will check the FOIA page.

On Thu, Dec 21, 2017 at 3:01 PM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

However, I would still like to know who provided the helicopter (BLM? National Interagency Fire Center? There are references to both in the emails, along with a billing code). I would also like to know how much the trips cost and how they were financed. **This information, along**



**with the million dollars of charges for charter flights by the previous administration, is publicly available on DOI's FOIA reading room webpage.**

Also, did the Secretary fly commercial between NM and NV because private transport could not be secured? **no**

If you can help me with these questions, that would be great. Thanks again.

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Thu, Dec 21, 2017 at 2:57 PM, Celeste Katz <[c.katz@newsweekgroup.com](mailto:c.katz@newsweekgroup.com)> wrote:

Thanks for getting back and for these details.

I certainly don't dispute that the aerial tour of Basin and Range was reported. (I read coverage of the visit in the Review Journal, for example.)

However, I would still like to know who provided the helicopter (BLM? National Interagency Fire Center? There are references to both in the emails, along with a billing code). I would also like to know how much the trips cost and how they were financed.

Also, did the Secretary fly commercial between NM and NV because private transport could not be secured?

If you can help me with these questions, that would be great. Thanks again.

On Thu, Dec 21, 2017 at 2:44 PM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

So I reviewed all the emails and talked with everyone I could think of here's what I have for you: the fireline visit was removed very early in the trip planning process, which was conveyed in the thread, due to scheduling constraints. The Secretary [flew commercial](#) between NM and NV.

Regarding the aerial tour of [Basin and Range National Monument](#), that has been widely reported already and has been fully disclosed. Everything was scheduled in full compliance of all federal regulations. The secretary [tweeted](#) and the Department published [footage](#) of it. The Secretary used a helicopter to do an aerial survey of more than 700,000 acres of land which has extremely limited road access. This was done as part of the monument review. The only newsworthy item is that this Secretary has sharply curbed the use of chartered airplanes compared to the previous administration which spent over a million dollars on chartered airplanes.

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Thu, Dec 21, 2017 at 1:36 PM, Celeste Katz <[c.katz@newsweekgroup.com](mailto:c.katz@newsweekgroup.com)> wrote:

ok, great - tvn

On Thu, Dec 21, 2017 at 1:35 PM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Im getting everything triple checked

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Thu, Dec 21, 2017 at 1:29 PM, Celeste Katz <[c.katz@newsweekgroup.com](mailto:c.katz@newsweekgroup.com)> wrote:

Hi Heather - just want to check that my questions were worded clearly and to see when think we might have a response or responses ? Thanks, CK

On Thu, Dec 21, 2017 at 9:11 AM, Celeste Katz <[c.katz@newsweekgroup.com](mailto:c.katz@newsweekgroup.com)> wrote:

You should find the file attached. The emails are (mainly) in reverse chronological order. Let me know they come through?

As you say, some of the exchanges would have taken place relatively early, but the discussions do go right up to the time of the trip.

On Thu, Dec 21, 2017 at 9:08 AM, Celeste Katz <[c.katz@newsweekgroup.com](mailto:c.katz@newsweekgroup.com)> wrote:

Hi, hold on a moment and I will send, sure

On Thu, Dec 21, 2017 at 9:06 AM, Heather Swift <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Celeste can you please send me the documents you're referencing? Off the top of my head it seems like you were pitched very early draft documents.

Heather Swift  
Press Secretary  
Department of the Interior

On Dec 21, 2017, at 9:03 AM, Celeste Katz <[c.katz@newsweekgroup.com](mailto:c.katz@newsweekgroup.com)> wrote:

Good morning, Heather -

Hoping you can help me with a few questions about Secretary Zinke's travel in Nevada and New Mexico over the summer. My questions are based on emails from July which were put together via a FOIL request and shared with me.

At the end of July, Sec. Zinke went to Nevada and apparently did some travel by helicopter. According to the emails, there was both a possibility that he would visit a fire line in Nevada and that the helicopter arrangements would be made through the National Interagency Fire Center in Boise.

There were also some emails that described efforts to secure plane travel for him in New Mexico, but apparently there was an issue with finding pilots given the wildfires.

I would like to know:

1. Did the secretary end up traveling by helicopter?
2. Did he end up visiting any fire lines?
3. Who provided the helicopter service and at what cost?
4. Did the secretary end up having dinner with Sen. Dean Heller in Las Vegas, and was this a political or government business event?
5. What was the cost of any charter or private air travel, including planes and helicopters, for the entire trip (including New Mexico, if he did end up going there as well as Nevada)?

Please let me know if any part of my request isn't clear. I hope I can hear back from you on my questions by midday today.

Many thanks in advance for your help, CK

--

Celeste Katz | Senior Political Writer

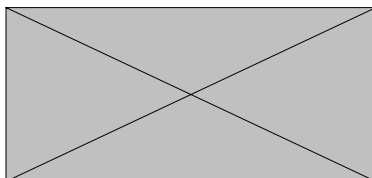
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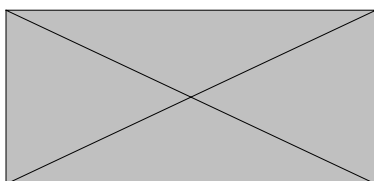
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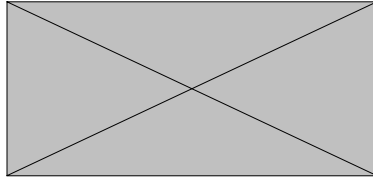


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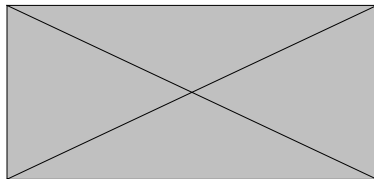


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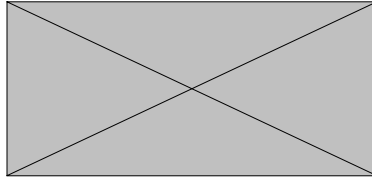
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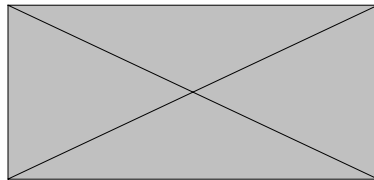
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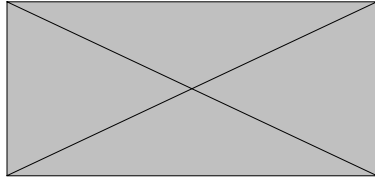
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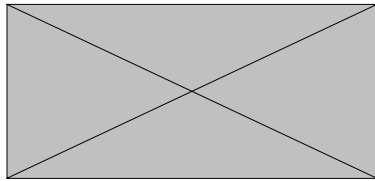
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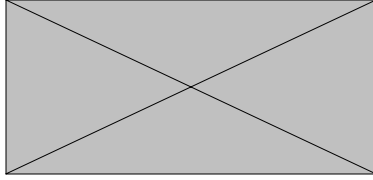
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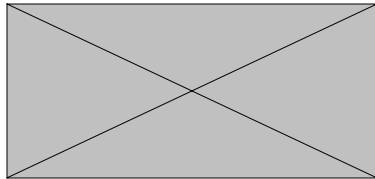
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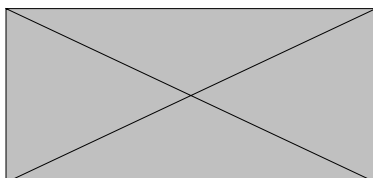
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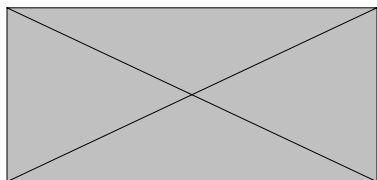
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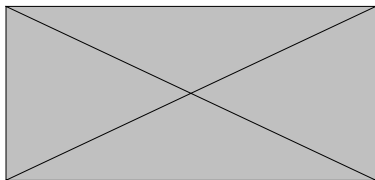
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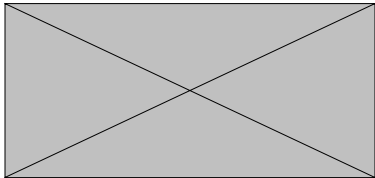
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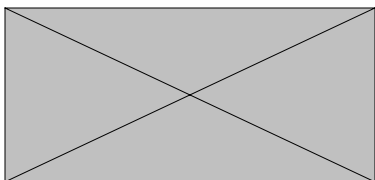
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**To:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Celeste Katz  
**Sent:** 2017-12-27T16:16:46-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Newsweek - travel questions  
**Received:** 2017-12-27T16:17:32-05:00  
[39295.PNG](#)

And I understand the cost to be \$39,295 (as listed in the attached screenshot from the summary of the Secretary's travel costs, on page 2 here:

[https://www.doi.gov/sites/doi.gov/files/uploads/secretary\\_ryan\\_zinke\\_travel.pdf](https://www.doi.gov/sites/doi.gov/files/uploads/secretary_ryan_zinke_travel.pdf))?

On Wed, Dec 27, 2017 at 4:09 PM, Celeste Katz <[c.katz@newsweekgroup.com](mailto:c.katz@newsweekgroup.com)> wrote:

Thanks for sorting through all of that. Can you explain to me why this was an error ?

On Wed, Dec 27, 2017 at 3:59 PM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Thanks for your patience. I have confirmed with all applicable offices that the cost was charged to the account in error. The Department has asked the BLM to pay the invoice out of a more appropriate account.

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Wed, Dec 27, 2017 at 12:34 PM, Celeste Katz <[c.katz@newsweekgroup.com](mailto:c.katz@newsweekgroup.com)> wrote:

Hi Heather: Yes, of course I realize that there was a weekend and holiday in there. I did see your away message, but considering how far we had gotten in our discussions, I thought it best to continue to deal directly with you than to start from scratch with someone else in your office. I did follow up with an email yesterday, but perhaps it fell through the post-holiday cracks. Again, I appreciate your help.

On Wed, Dec 27, 2017 at 12:29 PM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Celeste, as you mention, you contacted me six days ago, I have been corresponding with you regularly and giving you information as it is received. Note, one of those days was a major holiday and two were weekend days. I had an away message up Friday and Tuesday with instructions on how to reach my colleagues. I will continue to look into this for you however it requires me talking with people who know about accounting and travel approvals at DOI. As much as I'd like to have all the answers for you off the top of my head, I simply don't. I will have an answer for you soon.

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
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On Wed, Dec 27, 2017 at 12:24 PM, Celeste Katz <[c.katz@newsweekgroup.com](mailto:c.katz@newsweekgroup.com)> wrote:

Hi, Heather. Can I please get an update? Or if there is someone else I should speak with, I'm glad to do that as well.

I first contacted DOI about this story now six days ago, so I feel I have been reasonable in allowing for response time and scrupulous in explaining the direction of the story.

As I said, the bottom line here is that from the documents I have reviewed, both in the FOIL collection I sent you and publicly available on the DOI website, it appears that wildfire prevention-related money was used to finance the Nevada helicopter trip although the fireline visit was removed from the itinerary.

It also appears that this billing setup was created immediately after the decision not to visit the fireline, so it was not a case of setting up wildfire-related billing and then having to cancel that part of the trip at the last minute.

I do not see in the documents nor have I heard from you anything that would contradict the sequence of events I have just described, so unless you can tell me otherwise, this is what we plan to publish.

Looking forward to your response, CK

On Wed, Dec 27, 2017 at 9:38 AM, Celeste Katz <[c.katz@newsweekgroup.com](mailto:c.katz@newsweekgroup.com)> wrote:

Thank you. Looking to wrap up today.

On Wed, Dec 27, 2017 at 9:25 AM Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Looking into this.

-

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On Fri, Dec 22, 2017 at 4:20 PM, Celeste Katz <[c.katz@newsweekgroup.com](mailto:c.katz@newsweekgroup.com)> wrote:

Dear Heather,

Here are my final specific questions (with screenshots attached for clarity). Please let me know if you would like to comment for the story I am writing.

It is our understanding, based on the DOI / BLM email chain(s) I previously showed you and our own email exchanges, that Secretary Zinke was possibly going to visit a fireline in Nevada during his July visit.

In a July 17 exchange, there is a mention that the fireline visit is probably not going to occur because of a scheduling conflict (you later confirmed to me that Sec. Zinke was not able to go.)

On July 18, however, Rudy Evenson writes that "it looks like BLM will be able to pay for the helicopter out of the national fire office in Boise." He forwards an email from Grante Beebe that specifies, "We are going charge FA500 LF100 17X."

Our understanding is that this billing code is specific to wildfire preparedness. The publicly available documents put out by DOI on the Secretary's travel expenses show BLM did in fact pay the cost of the charter helicopter travel.

**Based on our review of this documentation, it appears to us that DOI and BLM used Fire Agency funding to finance a helicopter tour of Nevada monument sites that did not involve the planned trip to a fireline (but did involve a press conference). If you would like to explain otherwise, we invite you to do so.**

Thanks, Celeste

On Fri, Dec 22, 2017 at 11:47 AM, Celeste Katz <[c.katz@newsweekgroup.com](mailto:c.katz@newsweekgroup.com)> wrote:

Hi Heather, just wanted to make sure you saw my below question. I would appreciate an answer to this one specific thing, which is NOT explained in the documents to which you referred me. Thanks, CK

On Thu, Dec 21, 2017 at 4:08 PM Celeste Katz <[c.katz@newsweekgroup.com](mailto:c.katz@newsweekgroup.com)> wrote:

Ok, I think I have found what I was looking for (which I have attached as a screenshot from [here](#)).

If I am on the right page, the craft was a helicopter contracted with/from Papillon Airways. Specifically, it says "Mission flights paid by BLM."

In a July 18 email from the documents I sent you this morning, there is this line: "It looks like BLM will be able to pay for the helicopter out of the national fire office in Boise."

**How can I find out if BLM did in fact "pay for the helicopter out of the national fire office in Boise"?**

Can you tell me, or is there someone at BLM I should ask instead ?

Thanks for your help, CK

On Thu, Dec 21, 2017 at 3:19 PM, Celeste Katz <[c.katz@newsweekgroup.com](mailto:c.katz@newsweekgroup.com)> wrote:

Me again: Is this a standard message on the FOIA Reports Library page?

"At this time, archival documents may not be 100% accessible."

On Thu, Dec 21, 2017 at 3:05 PM, Celeste Katz <[c.katz@newsweekgroup.com](mailto:c.katz@newsweekgroup.com)> wrote:

Ok, I will check the FOIA page.

On Thu, Dec 21, 2017 at 3:01 PM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

However, I would still like to know who provided the helicopter (BLM? National Interagency Fire Center? There are references to both in the emails, along with a billing code). I would also like to know how much the trips cost and how they were financed. **This information, along with the million dollars of charges for charter flights by the previous administration, is publicly available on DOI's FOIA reading room webpage.**

Also, did the Secretary fly commercial between NM and NV because private transport could not be secured? **no**

If you can help me with these questions, that would be great. Thanks again.

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec

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On Thu, Dec 21, 2017 at 2:57 PM, Celeste Katz <[c.katz@newsweekgroup.com](mailto:c.katz@newsweekgroup.com)> wrote:

Thanks for getting back and for these details.

I certainly don't dispute that the aerial tour of Basin and Range was reported. (I read coverage of the visit in the Review Journal, for example.)

However, I would still like to know who provided the helicopter (BLM? National Interagency Fire Center? There are references to both in the emails, along with a billing code). I would also like to know how much the trips cost and how they were financed.

Also, did the Secretary fly commercial between NM and NV because private transport could not be secured?

If you can help me with these questions, that would be great. Thanks again.

On Thu, Dec 21, 2017 at 2:44 PM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

So I reviewed all the emails and talked with everyone I could think of here's what I have for you: the fireline visit was removed very early in the trip planning process, which was conveyed in the thread, due to scheduling constraints. The Secretary [flew commercial](#) between NM and NV.

Regarding the aerial tour of [Basin and Range National Monument](#), that has been widely reported already and has been fully disclosed. Everything was scheduled in full compliance of all federal regulations. The secretary [tweeted](#) and the Department published [footage](#) of it. The Secretary used a helicopter to do an aerial survey of more than 700,000 acres of land which has extremely limited road access. This was done as part of the monument review. The only newsworthy item is that this Secretary has sharply curbed the use of chartered airplanes compared to the previous administration which spent over a million dollars on chartered airplanes.

-

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Department of the Interior  
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[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Thu, Dec 21, 2017 at 1:36 PM, Celeste Katz <[c.katz@newsweekgroup.com](mailto:c.katz@newsweekgroup.com)> wrote:

ok, great - tvn

On Thu, Dec 21, 2017 at 1:35 PM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Im getting everything triple checked

-

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[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Thu, Dec 21, 2017 at 1:29 PM, Celeste Katz <[c.katz@newsweekgroup.com](mailto:c.katz@newsweekgroup.com)> wrote:

Hi Heather - just want to check that my questions were worded clearly and to see when think we might have a response or responses ?  
Thanks, CK

On Thu, Dec 21, 2017 at 9:11 AM, Celeste Katz <[c.katz@newsweekgroup.com](mailto:c.katz@newsweekgroup.com)> wrote:

You should find the file attached. The emails are (mainly) in reverse chronological order. Let me know they come through?

As you say, some of the exchanges would have taken place relatively early, but the discussions do go right up to the time of the trip.

On Thu, Dec 21, 2017 at 9:08 AM, Celeste Katz <[c.katz@newsweekgroup.com](mailto:c.katz@newsweekgroup.com)> wrote:

Hi, hold on a moment and I will send, sure

On Thu, Dec 21, 2017 at 9:06 AM, Heather Swift <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Celeste can you please send me the documents you're referencing? Off the top of my head it seems like you were pitched very early draft documents.

Heather Swift  
Press Secretary  
Department of the Interior

On Dec 21, 2017, at 9:03 AM, Celeste Katz <[c.katz@newsweekgroup.com](mailto:c.katz@newsweekgroup.com)> wrote:

Good morning, Heather -

Hoping you can help me with a few questions about Secretary Zinke's travel in Nevada and New Mexico over the summer. My questions are based on emails from July which were put together via a FOIL request and shared with me.

At the end of July, Sec. Zinke went to Nevada and apparently did some travel by helicopter. According to the emails, there was both a possibility that he would visit a fire line in Nevada and that the helicopter arrangements would be made through the National Interagency Fire Center in Boise.

There were also some emails that described efforts to secure plane travel for him in New Mexico, but apparently there was an issue with finding pilots given the wildfires.



I would like to know:

1. Did the secretary end up traveling by helicopter?
2. Did he end up visiting any fire lines?
3. Who provided the helicopter service and at what cost?
4. Did the secretary end up having dinner with Sen. Dean Heller in Las Vegas, and was this a political or government business event?
5. What was the cost of any charter or private air travel, including planes and helicopters, for the entire trip (including New Mexico, if he did end up going there as well as Nevada)?

Please let me know if any part of my request isn't clear. I hope I can hear back from you on my questions by midday today.

Many thanks in advance for your help, CK

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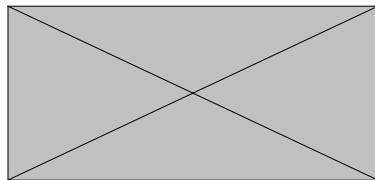
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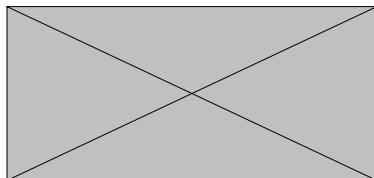
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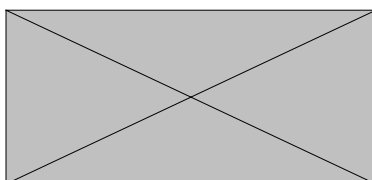
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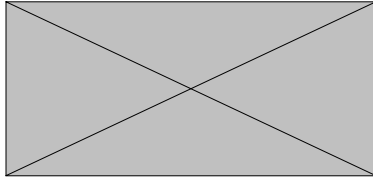
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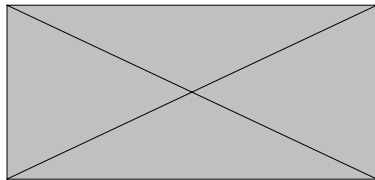
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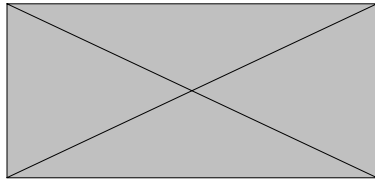
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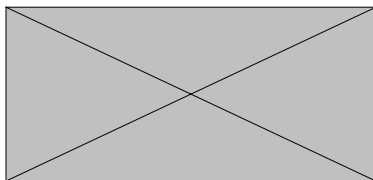
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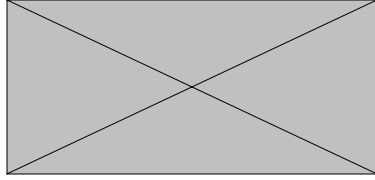
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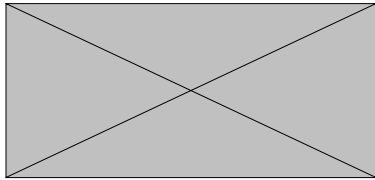


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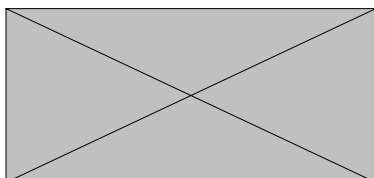


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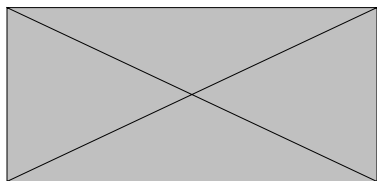
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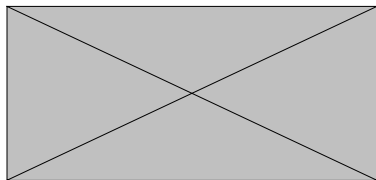
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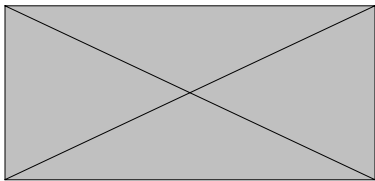
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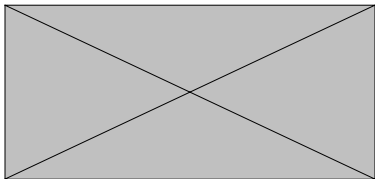
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**To:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Celeste Katz  
**Sent:** 2017-12-22T16:21:36-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Newsweek - travel questions  
**Received:** 2017-12-22T16:22:23-05:00  
[fire line tour.PNG](#)  
[fa500 lf100 17x.PNG](#)

## attaching the aforementioned images

On Fri, Dec 22, 2017 at 4:20 PM, Celeste Katz <[c.katz@newsweekgroup.com](mailto:c.katz@newsweekgroup.com)> wrote:

Dear Heather,

Here are my final specific questions (with screenshots attached for clarity). Please let me know if you would like to comment for the story I am writing.

It is our understanding, based on the DOI / BLM email chain(s) I previously showed you and our own email exchanges, that Secretary Zinke was possibly going to visit a fireline in Nevada during his July visit.

In a July 17 exchange, there is a mention that the fireline visit is probably not going to occur because of a scheduling conflict (you later confirmed to me that Sec. Zinke was not able to go.)

On July 18, however, Rudy Evenson writes that "it looks like BLM will be able to pay for the helicopter out of the national fire office in Boise." He forwards an email from Grante Beebe that specifies, "We are going charge FA500 LF100 17X."

Our understanding is that this billing code is specific to wildfire preparedness. The publicly available documents put out by DOI on the Secretary's travel expenses show BLM did in fact pay the cost of the charter helicopter travel.

**Based on our review of this documentation, it appears to us that DOI and BLM used Fire Agency funding to finance a helicopter tour of Nevada monument sites that did not involve the planned trip to a fireline (but did involve a press conference). If you would like to explain otherwise, we invite you to do so.**

Thanks, Celeste

On Fri, Dec 22, 2017 at 11:47 AM, Celeste Katz <[c.katz@newsweekgroup.com](mailto:c.katz@newsweekgroup.com)> wrote:

Hi Heather, just wanted to make sure you saw my below question. I would appreciate an answer to this one specific thing, which is NOT explained in the documents to which you referred me. Thanks, CK



On Thu, Dec 21, 2017 at 4:08 PM Celeste Katz <[c.katz@newsweekgroup.com](mailto:c.katz@newsweekgroup.com)> wrote:

Ok, I think I have found what I was looking for (which I have attached as a screenshot from [here](#)).

If I am on the right page, the craft was a helicopter contracted with/from Papillon Airways. Specifically, it says "Mission flights paid by BLM."

In a July 18 email from the documents I sent you this morning, there is this line: "It looks like BLM will be able to pay for the helicopter out of the national fire office in Boise."

**How can I find out if BLM did in fact "pay for the helicopter out of the national fire office in Boise"?**

Can you tell me, or is there someone at BLM I should ask instead ?

Thanks for your help, CK

On Thu, Dec 21, 2017 at 3:19 PM, Celeste Katz <[c.katz@newsweekgroup.com](mailto:c.katz@newsweekgroup.com)> wrote:

Me again: Is this a standard message on the FOIA Reports Library page?

"At this time, archival documents may not be 100% accessible."

On Thu, Dec 21, 2017 at 3:05 PM, Celeste Katz <[c.katz@newsweekgroup.com](mailto:c.katz@newsweekgroup.com)> wrote:

Ok, I will check the FOIA page.

On Thu, Dec 21, 2017 at 3:01 PM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

However, I would still like to know who provided the helicopter (BLM? National Interagency Fire Center? There are references to both in the emails, along with a billing code). I would also like to know how much the trips cost and how they were financed. **This information, along with the million dollars of charges for charter flights by the previous administration, is publicly available on DOI's FOIA reading room webpage.**

Also, did the Secretary fly commercial between NM and NV because private transport could not be secured? **no**

If you can help me with these questions, that would be great. Thanks again.

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior

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[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Thu, Dec 21, 2017 at 2:57 PM, Celeste Katz <[c.katz@newsweekgroup.com](mailto:c.katz@newsweekgroup.com)> wrote:

Thanks for getting back and for these details.

I certainly don't dispute that the aerial tour of Basin and Range was reported. (I read coverage of the visit in the Review Journal, for example.)

However, I would still like to know who provided the helicopter (BLM? National Interagency Fire Center? There are references to both in the emails, along with a billing code). I would also like to know how much the trips cost and how they were financed.

Also, did the Secretary fly commercial between NM and NV because private transport could not be secured?

If you can help me with these questions, that would be great. Thanks again.

On Thu, Dec 21, 2017 at 2:44 PM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

So I reviewed all the emails and talked with everyone I could think of here's what I have for you: the fireline visit was removed very early in the trip planning process, which was conveyed in the thread, due to scheduling constraints. The Secretary [flew commercial](#) between NM and NV.

Regarding the aerial tour of [Basin and Range National Monument](#), that has been widely reported already and has been fully disclosed. Everything was scheduled in full compliance of all federal regulations. The secretary [tweeted](#) and the Department published [footage](#) of it. The Secretary used a helicopter to do an aerial survey of more than 700,000 acres of land which has extremely limited road access. This was done as part of the monument review. The only newsworthy item is that this Secretary has sharply curbed the use of chartered airplanes compared to the previous administration which spent over a million dollars on chartered airplanes.

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Thu, Dec 21, 2017 at 1:36 PM, Celeste Katz <[c.katz@newsweekgroup.com](mailto:c.katz@newsweekgroup.com)> wrote:

ok, great - tvn

On Thu, Dec 21, 2017 at 1:35 PM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Im getting everything triple checked

-  
Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec

[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

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On Thu, Dec 21, 2017 at 9:11 AM, Celeste Katz <[c.katz@newsweekgroup.com](mailto:c.katz@newsweekgroup.com)> wrote:

You should find the file attached. The emails are (mainly) in reverse chronological order. Let me know they come through?

As you say, some of the exchanges would have taken place relatively early, but the discussions do go right up to the time of the trip.

On Thu, Dec 21, 2017 at 9:08 AM, Celeste Katz <[c.katz@newsweekgroup.com](mailto:c.katz@newsweekgroup.com)> wrote:

Hi, hold on a moment and I will send, sure

On Thu, Dec 21, 2017 at 9:06 AM, Heather Swift <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Celeste can you please send me the documents you're referencing? Off the top of my head it seems like you were pitched very early draft documents.

Heather Swift  
Press Secretary  
Department of the Interior

On Dec 21, 2017, at 9:03 AM, Celeste Katz <[c.katz@newsweekgroup.com](mailto:c.katz@newsweekgroup.com)> wrote:

Good morning, Heather -

Hoping you can help me with a few questions about Secretary Zinke's travel in Nevada and New Mexico over the summer. My questions are based on emails from July which were put together via a FOIL request and shared with me.

At the end of July, Sec. Zinke went to Nevada and apparently did some travel by helicopter. According to the emails, there was both a

possibility that he would visit a fire line in Nevada and that the helicopter arrangements would be made through the National Interagency Fire Center in Boise.

There were also some emails that described efforts to secure plane travel for him in New Mexico, but apparently there was an issue with finding pilots given the wildfires.

I would like to know:

1. Did the secretary end up traveling by helicopter?
2. Did he end up visiting any fire lines?
3. Who provided the helicopter service and at what cost?
4. Did the secretary end up having dinner with Sen. Dean Heller in Las Vegas, and was this a political or government business event?
5. What was the cost of any charter or private air travel, including planes and helicopters, for the entire trip (including New Mexico, if he did end up going there as well as Nevada)?

Please let me know if any part of my request isn't clear. I hope I can hear back from you on my questions by midday today.

Many thanks in advance for your help, CK

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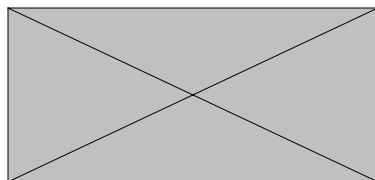
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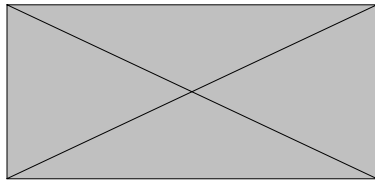
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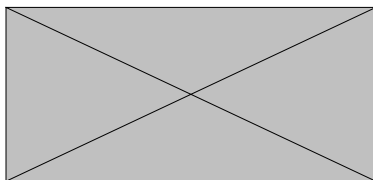
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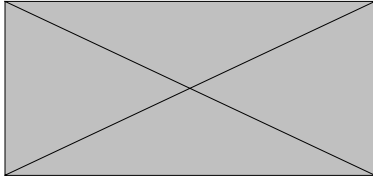
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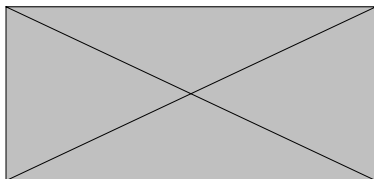
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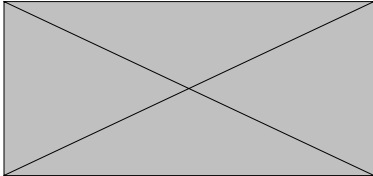
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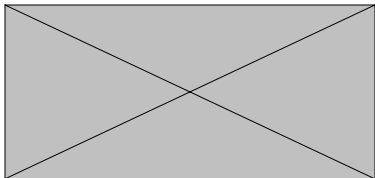
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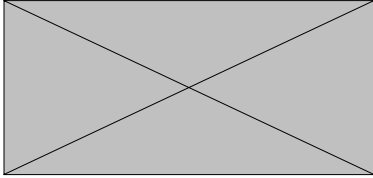
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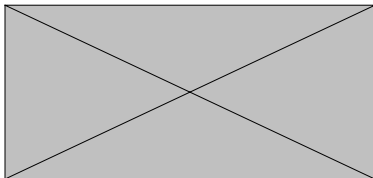
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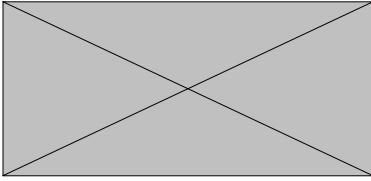
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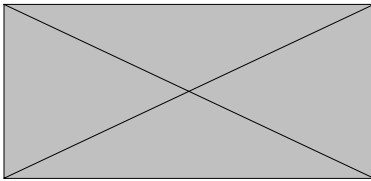
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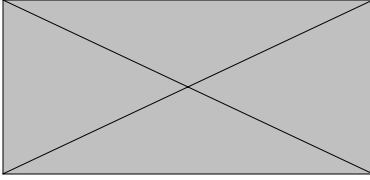
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**To:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Celeste Katz  
**Sent:** 2017-12-21T16:08:32-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Newsweek - travel questions  
**Received:** 2017-12-21T16:09:39-05:00  
[zinke nv helicopter expense screenshot.PNG](#)

Ok, I think I have found what I was looking for (which I have attached as a screenshot from [here](#)).

If I am on the right page, the craft was a helicopter contracted with/from Papillon Airways. Specifically, it says "Mission flights paid by BLM."

In a July 18 email from the documents I sent you this morning, there is this line: "It looks like BLM will be able to pay for the helicopter out of the national fire office in Boise."

**How can I find out if BLM did in fact "pay for the helicopter out of the national fire office in Boise"?**

Can you tell me, or is there someone at BLM I should ask instead ?

Thanks for your help, CK

On Thu, Dec 21, 2017 at 3:19 PM, Celeste Katz <[c.katz@newsweekgroup.com](mailto:c.katz@newsweekgroup.com)> wrote:

Me again: Is this a standard message on the FOIA Reports Library page?

"At this time, archival documents may not be 100% accessible."

On Thu, Dec 21, 2017 at 3:05 PM, Celeste Katz <[c.katz@newsweekgroup.com](mailto:c.katz@newsweekgroup.com)> wrote:

Ok, I will check the FOIA page.

On Thu, Dec 21, 2017 at 3:01 PM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

However, I would still like to know who provided the helicopter (BLM? National Interagency Fire Center? There are references to both in the emails, along with a billing code). I would also like to know how much the trips cost and how they were financed. **This information, along with the million dollars of charges for charter flights by the previous administration, is publicly available on DOI's FOIA reading room webpage.**

Also, did the Secretary fly commercial between NM and NV because private transport could not be secured? **no**

If you can help me with these questions, that would be great. Thanks again.

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Thu, Dec 21, 2017 at 2:57 PM, Celeste Katz <[c.katz@newsweekgroup.com](mailto:c.katz@newsweekgroup.com)> wrote:

Thanks for getting back and for these details.

I certainly don't dispute that the aerial tour of Basin and Range was reported. (I read coverage of the visit in the Review Journal, for example.)

However, I would still like to know who provided the helicopter (BLM? National Interagency Fire Center? There are references to both in the emails, along with a billing code). I would also like to know how much the trips cost and how they were financed.

Also, did the Secretary fly commercial between NM and NV because private transport could not be secured?

If you can help me with these questions, that would be great. Thanks again.

On Thu, Dec 21, 2017 at 2:44 PM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

So I reviewed all the emails and talked with everyone I could think of here's what I have for you: the fireline visit was removed very early in the trip planning process, which was conveyed in the thread, due to scheduling constraints. The Secretary [flew commercial](#) between NM and NV.

Regarding the aerial tour of [Basin and Range National Monument](#), that has been widely reported already and has been fully disclosed. Everything was scheduled in full compliance of all federal regulations. The secretary [tweeted](#) and the Department published [footage](#) of it. The Secretary used a helicopter to do an aerial survey of more than 700,000 acres of land which has extremely limited road access. This was done as part of the monument review. The only newsworthy item is that this Secretary has sharply curbed the use of chartered airplanes compared to the previous administration which spent over a million dollars on chartered airplanes.

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Thu, Dec 21, 2017 at 1:36 PM, Celeste Katz <[c.katz@newsweekgroup.com](mailto:c.katz@newsweekgroup.com)> wrote:

ok, great - tvn

On Thu, Dec 21, 2017 at 1:35 PM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Im getting everything triple checked

-

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On Thu, Dec 21, 2017 at 1:29 PM, Celeste Katz <[c.katz@newsweekgroup.com](mailto:c.katz@newsweekgroup.com)> wrote:

Hi Heather - just want to check that my questions were worded clearly and to see when think we might have a response or responses ? Thanks, CK

On Thu, Dec 21, 2017 at 9:11 AM, Celeste Katz <[c.katz@newsweekgroup.com](mailto:c.katz@newsweekgroup.com)> wrote:

You should find the file attached. The emails are (mainly) in reverse chronological order. Let me know they come through?

As you say, some of the exchanges would have taken place relatively early, but the discussions do go right up to the time of the trip.

On Thu, Dec 21, 2017 at 9:08 AM, Celeste Katz <[c.katz@newsweekgroup.com](mailto:c.katz@newsweekgroup.com)> wrote:

Hi, hold on a moment and I will send, sure

On Thu, Dec 21, 2017 at 9:06 AM, Heather Swift <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Celeste can you please send me the documents you're referencing? Off the top of my head it seems like you were pitched very early draft documents.

Heather Swift  
Press Secretary  
Department of the Interior

On Dec 21, 2017, at 9:03 AM, Celeste Katz <[c.katz@newsweekgroup.com](mailto:c.katz@newsweekgroup.com)> wrote:

Good morning, Heather -

Hoping you can help me with a few questions about Secretary Zinke's travel in Nevada and New Mexico over the summer. My questions are

based on emails from July which were put together via a FOIL request and shared with me.

At the end of July, Sec. Zinke went to Nevada and apparently did some travel by helicopter. According to the emails, there was both a possibility that he would visit a fire line in Nevada and that the helicopter arrangements would be made through the National Interagency Fire Center in Boise.

There were also some emails that described efforts to secure plane travel for him in New Mexico, but apparently there was an issue with finding pilots given the wildfires.

I would like to know:

1. Did the secretary end up traveling by helicopter?
2. Did he end up visiting any fire lines?
3. Who provided the helicopter service and at what cost?
4. Did the secretary end up having dinner with Sen. Dean Heller in Las Vegas, and was this a political or government business event?
5. What was the cost of any charter or private air travel, including planes and helicopters, for the entire trip (including New Mexico, if he did end up going there as well as Nevada)?

Please let me know if any part of my request isn't clear. I hope I can hear back from you on my questions by midday today.

Many thanks in advance for your help, CK

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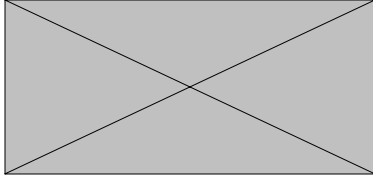
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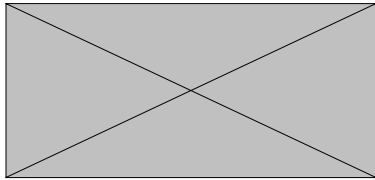
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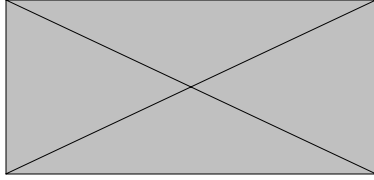
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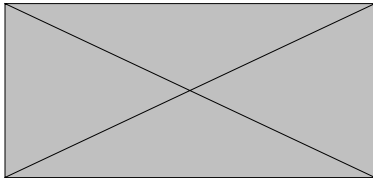
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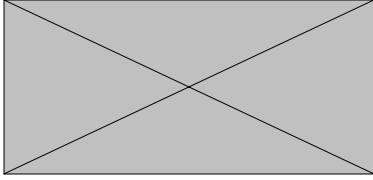
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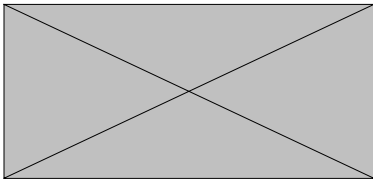
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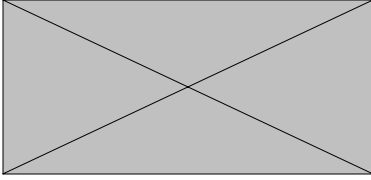
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**W | [newsweekgroup.com](http://newsweekgroup.com) / [@CelesteKatzNYC](https://www.instagram.com/CelesteKatzNYC)**

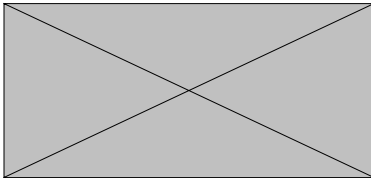


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--

**Celeste Katz | Senior Political Writer**  
**NEWSWEEK MEDIA GROUP**  
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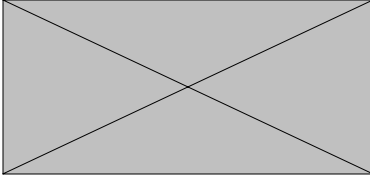


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--

**Celeste Katz | Senior Political Writer**  
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**To:** Todd Willens[todd\_willens@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Laura Rigas[laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov];  
downey\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov[downey\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov];  
daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov[daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov]; todd\_wynn@ios.doi.gov[todd\_wynn@ios.doi.gov];  
john\_tanner@ios.doi.gov[john\_tanner@ios.doi.gov]; Russell Newell[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov];  
heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Larrabee, Jason  
**Sent:** 2017-11-29T15:34:44-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: NPS FOIA - Pending Release of Public Comments on Fee Proposal  
**Received:** 2017-11-29T15:34:51-05:00

I am now.

Jason Larrabee  
Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
[1849 C Street, NW](#) -- MIB Room 3154  
Washington, DC 20240  
office: 202-208-4416

NOTE: *Every email I send or receive is subject to release under the Freedom of Information Act.*

On Wed, Nov 29, 2017 at 2:32 PM, Todd Willens <[todd\\_willens@ios.doi.gov](mailto:todd_willens@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

10-4

Todd Willens  
Assistant Deputy Secretary  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW - MIB Room 6116  
Washington, DC 20240

On Nov 29, 2017, at 1:45 PM, Laura Rigas <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

You guys aware of this?

Laura Keehner Rigas  
Communications Director  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 897-7022 cell  
@Interior

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Barnum, Jeremy" <[jeremy\\_barnum@nps.gov](mailto:jeremy_barnum@nps.gov)>  
**Date:** November 29, 2017 at 12:18:15 PM EST  
**To:** Paul Ross <[paul\\_ross@ios.doi.gov](mailto:paul_ross@ios.doi.gov)>, Laura Rigas <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)>,

Heather Swift <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)>, Russell Newell  
<[russell\\_newell@ios.doi.gov](mailto:russell_newell@ios.doi.gov)>

Cc: April Slayton <[april\\_slayton@nps.gov](mailto:april_slayton@nps.gov)>, Kathy Kupper  
<[kathy\\_kupper@nps.gov](mailto:kathy_kupper@nps.gov)>

**Subject: NPS FOIA - Pending Release of Public Comments on Fee Proposal**

DOI Colleagues,

Heads up that by the end of the week NPS FOIA will be releasing the nearly 90,000 public comments received on the proposed peak-season fee increase to ABC/FOX Montana - Cowles Media. The below email chain clarifies why these comments cannot be withheld until after the public comment period concludes.

The comments file may be found [here](#) (it's too large to send as an attachment, let me know if you have trouble accessing). These comments are in raw form as they have not been reviewed, categorized, etc.

We'll have some if-asked points ready for your review in advance of the release.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks,

Jeremy

----- Forwarded message -----

Hi Jeremy,

I have heard back from the SOL and we cannot withhold the comments under Ex.

5. He also made the point that (b) (5)

[REDACTED]

So do you want me to share the comment file with you so you can share it with DOI and give them a heads up?

C.

---

On Tue, Nov 28, 2017 at 4:11 PM, FOIA, NPS <[npsfoia@nps.gov](mailto:npsfoia@nps.gov)> wrote:

Hi everyone,  
Just wanted to give you a heads up about a pending FOIA release. I have the spreadsheet that has the 82,092 comments we have received as of yesterday. I am planning on releasing it in full. The spreadsheet has only the comments. However, some of those comments include PII but under routine use #12 of the [SORN](#) for PEPC, it is not a violation of the Privacy Act to release it to a member of the media.

Feel free to contact me with any questions.

C.

---

Ms. Charis Wilson, PhD, CRM  
NPS FOIA Officer  
[12795 W. Alameda Parkway](#)  
PO Box 25287  
Denver, CO 80225-0287  
303-969-2959  
Fax: 303-969-2557  
1-855-NPS-FOIA  
[npsfoia@nps.gov](mailto:npsfoia@nps.gov)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **U.S. Department of the Interior** <[doi-webforms@ios.doi.gov](mailto:doi-webforms@ios.doi.gov)>  
Date: Mon, Nov 20, 2017 at 10:30 AM  
Subject: FOIA from: Megan Lewis  
To: [npsfoia@nps.gov](mailto:npsfoia@nps.gov)

Submitted on Monday, November 20, 2017 - 12:30pm  
Submitted by anonymous user: [10.156.8.158]  
Submitted values are:

Your Name: Megan Lewis  
Mailing Address: PO BOX 1139  
City: GREAT FALLS  
State or Country: MT  
Zip or Postal Code: 59404  
Address Type: Business  
Daytime Phone Number: (b) (6)  
Fax Number:  
E-mail Address: [MLEWIS@KFBB.COM](mailto:MLEWIS@KFBB.COM)  
Confirm E-mail Address : [MLEWIS@KFBB.COM](mailto:MLEWIS@KFBB.COM)  
Your Organization: ABC/FOX Montana - Cowles Media

Are you filing the request on behalf of another party? No

If so, who are you filing the request on behalf of?

Contact Information Certification: I certify that the above statement(s) concerning who I am filing the request on behalf of are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief. If I want to receive greater access to records about a person I represent, I will submit proof that the person consents to the release of the records to me, as discussed in 43 C.F.R. § 2.9.

Bureau/Office: National Park Service (NPS)

Relevant park, refuge, site or other location:

Request Description:

I would like a copy of the public comments regarding the fee increase for the national parks service. Here's link to the page where you can make comments.

<https://parkplanning.nps.gov/document.cfm?documentID=83652>

Requester's Communication Preferences: Electronic communication via email

Document Disclosure Preferences: Electronic copies via email

Select the applicable reason why you are requesting expedited processing:

Justification for Expedited Processing:

Expedited Processing Certification:

Please select the appropriate statement: I am requesting a waiver or reduction of fees.

I agree to pay fees up to this particular amount:

To assist in determining my requester category to assess fees, you should know that I am: a representative of the news media and this request is made as part of a news gathering effort and not for commercial use

Affiliated Organization: ABC/FOX Montana

Check the boxes to the right to confirm that you meet the Department's fee waiver criteria:

- Disclosure of the information is in the public interest because it is likely to contribute significantly to public understanding of the operations or activities of the Government.
- Disclosure of the information is not primarily in my commercial interest.

Please explain why your request for a waiver of fees or a reduction in fees is justified.: The items I am requesting are public documents.

The results of this submission may be viewed at:

<https://www.doi.gov/node/11498/submission/314439>

**To:** Barnum, Jeremy[jeremy\_barnum@nps.gov]  
**Cc:** Paul Ross[paul\_ross@ios.doi.gov]; Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]; April Slayton[april\_slayton@nps.gov]  
**From:** Newell, Russell  
**Sent:** 2017-08-25T16:55:47-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: NPS FOIA on Glacier/Zuckerberg  
**Received:** 2017-08-26T04:54:49-04:00

thank you Jeremy

Russell Newell  
Deputy Director of Communications  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 208-6232  
@Interior

On Fri, Aug 25, 2017 at 4:47 PM, Barnum, Jeremy <[jeremy\\_barnum@nps.gov](mailto:jeremy_barnum@nps.gov)> wrote:

DOI Colleagues,  
Flagging that the NPS FOIA office has responded to requesters seeking [information](#) on Mark Zuckerberg's visit to Glacier National Park and has posted the same to the NPS FOIA [Frequently Requested Documents page](#).

I just found out about this and apologize if this is the first you're hearing of it as well. I've given it a quick skim and don't see anything extraordinary in here, but will give it a closer read. We'll flag any media queries we receive before responding.

Thanks,

Jeremy K. Barnum  
Public Affairs Officer  
National Park Service  
Office: (202) 513-7262



[Facebook](#) [Twitter](#)  
[Instagram](#) [YouTube](#)



**To:** Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Rateike, Bradley A. EOP/WHO (b) (6) Love, Kelly A. EOP/WHO (b) (6) Russell Newell[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov]; Laura Rigas[laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Shah, Raj S. EOP/WHO  
**Sent:** 2017-09-29T18:02:15-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** RE: nyt zinke  
**Received:** 2017-09-29T18:02:27-04:00

“The Trump Administration will work to ensure all officials follow appropriate rules and regulations when traveling, including seeking commercial options at all times appropriate and feasible, to ensure the efficient use of government resources.” – SPOX

- Then, work the story on background. Point to process as well in terms of following the law and legal approval.
- No announcements about the Secretary’s policies regarding private jet travel.
- No announcements about travel rules, etc.
- Do not treat a document request from a reporter like a FOIA request. Treat a FOIA request as such.

---

**From:** Heather Swift [mailto:heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 29, 2017 5:34 PM  
**To:** Shah, Raj S. EOP/WHO <(b) (6)>  
**Cc:** Rateike, Bradley A. EOP/WHO <(b) (6)>; Love, Kelly A. EOP/WHO <(b) (6)>; Russell Newell <russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov>; Laura Rigas <laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: nyt zinke

Rgr

Heather Swift  
Press Secretary  
Department of the Interior

On Sep 29, 2017, at 5:31 PM, Shah, Raj S. EOP/WHO <(b) (6)> wrote:

Tell them to hold. You will have guidance soon.

**From:** Swift, Heather [mailto:heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 29, 2017 4:34 PM  
**To:** Shah, Raj S. EOP/WHO <(b) (6)>  
**Cc:** Rateike, Bradley A. EOP/WHO <(b) (6)>; Love, Kelly A. EOP/WHO <(b) (6)> Russell Newell <russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov>; Laura Rigas <laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov>

**Subject:** Re: nyt zinke

5:30 hard

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Fri, Sep 29, 2017 at 4:26 PM, Heather Swift <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

She wants it today.  
Heather Swift  
Press Secretary  
Department of the Interior

On Sep 29, 2017, at 4:23 PM, Shah, Raj S. EOP/WHO  
<(b) (6)> wrote:

What's the deadline?

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 29, 2017, at 4:10 PM, Heather Swift  
<[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Wanted to double check before I send that our standard response is OK.

(b)(5)

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

(b)(5)  
[Redacted text block]

[Redacted text block]

[Redacted text block]

[Redacted text block]

[Redacted text block]

3/31

(b)(5)  
[Redacted text block]

[Redacted text block]

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[Redacted]

(b)(5)  
[Redacted]

Heather Swift  
Press Secretary  
Department of the Interior

On Sep 29, 2017, at 3:27 PM, Swift, Heather  
<[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Received the following from NYT. Plan  
to respond with standard response.

Good afternoon,

My name is Emily Cochrane and I am a reporter for the New York Times. I'm  
looking to do a little more digging into agency  
travel. Could you provide some documentation as  
to what kind of travel has been done by officials at  
the Department of Interior?

Specifically:

- Records of each usage of a government-owned  
aircraft by a non-career official, including  
Secretary Zinke, at the Department of Interior  
since January 20, 2017. For each usage, please  
provide the aircraft manifest (including all  
passenger names), destinations, dates of use,  
purpose and cost of each trip.

- The same information (the aircraft manifest with  
passenger names, destinations, dates of use,  
purpose and cost of each trip) for records of each  
usage of a private, non-commercial aircraft by a  
non-career official at the Department of Interior,  
including but not limited to charter service, lease,  
or other arrangement through Commercial  
Aviation Services providers since January 20,  
2017.

Any documents already made public to other  
reporters regarding the topic would also be  
greatly appreciated. My phone number is (b) (6)  
[Redacted]

Thank you,  
Emily Cochrane

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) 1  
[Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

**To:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Howarth, Robert  
**Sent:** 2017-12-12T10:41:57-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: oh my gawd  
**Received:** 2017-12-12T10:42:05-05:00

Glad you enjoyed it!

On Tue, Dec 12, 2017 at 10:10 AM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Seriously the best quiche I've ever had. Amazing stuff. Thank you!!!

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

--

Robert Howarth  
Deputy Director for Correspondence and FOIA Management  
Office of the Executive Secretariat and Regulatory Affairs  
Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20240  
202-208-3181  
202-208-4451 (direct)  
202-549-8961 (cell)



**To:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Interior\_Press@ios.doi.gov[Interior\_Press@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Jennifer Yachnin  
**Sent:** 2017-08-09T13:56:39-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** RE: One more question: CBD lawsuit?  
**Received:** 2017-08-09T13:56:51-04:00

Thanks on all counts.

-----  
303.355.2979 office  
(b) (6) mobile

---

**From:** Swift, Heather [heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 09, 2017 11:55 AM  
**To:** Jennifer Yachnin  
**Cc:** Interior\_Press@ios.doi.gov  
**Subject:** Re: One more question: CBD lawsuit?

Please direct questions regarding litigation to DOJ.

Please see Zinke's schedule here: <https://www.doi.gov/foia/os/secretarial-schedules>

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Wed, Aug 9, 2017 at 1:54 PM, Jennifer Yachnin <[jyachnin@eenews.net](mailto:jyachnin@eenews.net)> wrote:

Hi - One other question for the day. Anyone want to respond to the Center for Biological Diversity announcement that they are suing Interior for the Secretary's schedule/email related to monuments review? I'm writing a brief for the PM (3:30 deadline).

-----  
303.355.2979 office  
(b) (6) mobile

**To:** Jennifer Yachnin[jyachnin@eenews.net]  
**Cc:** Interior\_Press@ios.doi.gov[Interior\_Press@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Swift, Heather  
**Sent:** 2017-08-09T13:55:26-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: One more question: CBD lawsuit?  
**Received:** 2017-08-09T13:56:07-04:00

Please direct questions regarding litigation to DOJ.

Please see Zinke's schedule here: <https://www.doi.gov/foia/os/secretarial-schedules>

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Wed, Aug 9, 2017 at 1:54 PM, Jennifer Yachnin <[jyachnin@eenews.net](mailto:jyachnin@eenews.net)> wrote:

Hi - One other question for the day. Anyone want to respond to the Center for Biological Diversity announcement that they are suing Interior for the Secretary's schedule/email related to monuments review? I'm writing a brief for the PM (3:30 deadline).

-----  
303.355.2979 office  
(b) (6) mobile

**To:** Swift, Heather[[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)]  
**From:** Dixon, Shandria  
**Sent:** 2017-08-15T15:26:36-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: OS-2017-00384  
**Received:** 2017-08-15T15:26:43-04:00

ok thanks

On Tue, Aug 15, 2017 at 3:25 PM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

I responded to them that I have nothing.

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Tue, Aug 15, 2017 at 3:19 PM, Dixon, Shandria <[shandria\\_dixon@ios.doi.gov](mailto:shandria_dixon@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Can you please send me an update on your search for this FOIA...The FOIA office is requesting the status of your search.

Thanks

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Dixon, Shandria <[shandria\\_dixon@ios.doi.gov](mailto:shandria_dixon@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Date:** Mon, Aug 7, 2017 at 11:12 AM  
**Subject:** Fwd: OS-2017-00384  
**To:** "Swift, Heather" <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)>, "Baptiste, Thomas" <[thomas\\_baptiste@ios.doi.gov](mailto:thomas_baptiste@ios.doi.gov)>

Heather/Thomas,

Can the two of you please do a search on this FOIA request? It is in litigation and they need to know the status immediately. Please advise some time today.

Thanks

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Bradley, Margaret <[margaret\\_bradley@ios.doi.gov](mailto:margaret_bradley@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Date:** Mon, Aug 7, 2017 at 10:18 AM  
**Subject:** Fwd: OS-2017-00384  
**To:** "Dixon, Shandria" <[shandria\\_dixon@ios.doi.gov](mailto:shandria_dixon@ios.doi.gov)>

Hi Shandria,

The Division of General Law reached out to me to seek some assistance in determining the status of a FOIA search that is in litigation. The Department needs to know the status of the search process for the FOIA I am forwarding with this email. You are the contact for the FOIA searches for documents belonging to Laura Rigas, Heather Swift and Tom Baptiste. Can you let me know the status of the searches for these individuals and this particular FOIA request? And let me know if you need some assistance. And, unfortunately, I need an answer ASAP so that the Department can prepare a response for the court.

- we need the following:
  - a. EITHER the results of a search or a statement that the individual has no responsive documents.
  - b. If someone has responsive documents, they should:
    - i. create a folder in the Google Drive [HERE](#) with the custodian's name,
    - ii. upload their documents to that folder, and
    - iii. provide, in an email or brief document, a description of where and when they searched (e.g. Bison Connect, network directory), as well as HOW they searched (using keywords, looking through a labelled folder).
    - iv. If someone has searched but found no responsive documents, they should still provide a write-up describing the search.
  - c. If someone knows they do NOT have responsive documents, they need to provide, in an email or brief document, a brief explanation why.
  - d. The descriptions of the search and/or the reason for not having responsive documents will be the basis for a declaration. Custodians should expect a follow-up email from the FOIA Officer or myself with brief clarifying questions.

Thank you!  
Margaret

Margaret Bradley  
Senior Advisor  
Office of the Executive Secretariat  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
Room 7318  
202-208-4523

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Sweeney, Cynthia** <[cynthia\\_sweeney@ios.doi.gov](mailto:cynthia_sweeney@ios.doi.gov)>  
Date: Mon, Aug 7, 2017 at 9:51 AM  
Subject: OS-2017-00384  
To: "Bradley, Margaret" <[margaret\\_bradley@ios.doi.gov](mailto:margaret_bradley@ios.doi.gov)>

Hi Margaret,

Please see attached a copy of the request that Leah was working on that is in litigation. Let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks,  
Cindy

--

**Cynthia Sweeney (Cindy)**

**Department of the Interior**

**Office of the Secretary, FOIA Office**

1849 C Street, NW, MS-7328

Washington, D.C. 20240

[Cynthia\\_Sweeney@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Cynthia_Sweeney@ios.doi.gov)

(202) 513-0765 - FOIA general phone line

(202) 208-3552 - direct line

(202) 219-2374 - fax

--

--

**Shandria Dixon**

Office of the Secretary

Office of Communications

202.208.3752

**To:** Dixon, Shandria[shandria\_dixon@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Baptiste, Thomas[thomas\_baptiste@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Swift, Heather  
**Sent:** 2017-08-07T14:51:45-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: OS-2017-00384  
**Received:** 2017-08-07T14:52:32-04:00

Good to know. Thanks!

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Mon, Aug 7, 2017 at 2:39 PM, Dixon, Shandria <[shandria\\_dixon@ios.doi.gov](mailto:shandria_dixon@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

The FOIA officer confirmed that there is (b) (5)

Thanks

On Mon, Aug 7, 2017 at 12:07 PM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

I'm not the FOIA officer but I would imagine that (b) (5)

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Mon, Aug 7, 2017 at 12:04 PM, Dixon, Shandria <[shandria\\_dixon@ios.doi.gov](mailto:shandria_dixon@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Sorry..I meant to send this to the FOIA officer...

(b) (5)

On Mon, Aug 7, 2017 at 11:59 AM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

What do you mean by (b) (5) [REDACTED]?

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Mon, Aug 7, 2017 at 11:58 AM, Dixon, Shandria <[shandria\\_dixon@ios.doi.gov](mailto:shandria_dixon@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Do you know if they want (b) (5) [REDACTED]?

On Mon, Aug 7, 2017 at 11:12 AM, Dixon, Shandria <[shandria\\_dixon@ios.doi.gov](mailto:shandria_dixon@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Heather/Thomas,  
Can the two of you please do a search on this FOIA request? It is in litigation and they need to know the status immediately. Please advise some time today.

Thanks

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Bradley, Margaret** <[margaret\\_bradley@ios.doi.gov](mailto:margaret_bradley@ios.doi.gov)>

Date: Mon, Aug 7, 2017 at 10:18 AM

Subject: Fwd: OS-2017-00384

To: "Dixon, Shandria" <[shandria\\_dixon@ios.doi.gov](mailto:shandria_dixon@ios.doi.gov)>

Hi Shandria,

The Division of General Law reached out to me to seek some assistance in determining the status of a FOIA search that is in litigation. The Department needs to know the status of the search process for the FOIA I am forwarding with this email. You are the contact for the FOIA searches for documents belonging to Laura Rigas, Heather Swift and Tom Baptiste. Can you let me know the status of the searches for these individuals and this particular FOIA request? And let me know if you need some assistance. And, unfortunately, I need an answer ASAP so that the Department can prepare a response for the court.

□ we need the following:

a. EITHER the results of a search or a statement that the individual has no responsive documents.

b. If someone has responsive documents, they should:

i. create a folder in the Google Drive [HERE](#) with the custodian's name,

- ii. upload their documents to that folder, and
  - iii. provide, in an email or brief document, a description of where and when they searched (e.g. Bison Connect, network directory), as well as HOW they searched (using keywords, looking through a labelled folder).
  - iv. If someone has searched but found no responsive documents, they should still provide a write-up describing the search.
- c. If someone knows they do NOT have responsive documents, they need to provide, in an email or brief document, a brief explanation why.
- d. The descriptions of the search and/or the reason for not having responsive documents will be the basis for a declaration. Custodians should expect a follow-up email from the FOIA Officer or myself with brief clarifying questions.

Thank you!  
Margaret

Margaret Bradley  
Senior Advisor  
Office of the Executive Secretariat  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
Room 7318  
202-208-4523

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Sweeney, Cynthia** <[cynthia\\_sweeney@ios.doi.gov](mailto:cynthia_sweeney@ios.doi.gov)>  
Date: Mon, Aug 7, 2017 at 9:51 AM  
Subject: OS-2017-00384  
To: "Bradley, Margaret" <[margaret\\_bradley@ios.doi.gov](mailto:margaret_bradley@ios.doi.gov)>

Hi Margaret,  
Please see attached a copy of the request that Leah was working on that is in litigation. Let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks,  
Cindy

--

**Cynthia Sweeney (Cindy)**  
**Department of the Interior**  
**Office of the Secretary, FOIA Office**  
1849 C Street, NW, MS-7328  
Washington, D.C. 20240  
[Cynthia\\_Sweeney@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Cynthia_Sweeney@ios.doi.gov)

(202) 513-0765 - FOIA general phone line



(202) 208-3552 - direct line  
(202) 219-2374 - fax

--

**Shandria Dixon**

Office of the Secretary  
Office of Communications  
202.208.3752

--

**Shandria Dixon**

Office of the Secretary  
Office of Communications  
202.208.3752

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**Shandria Dixon**

Office of the Secretary  
Office of Communications  
202.208.3752

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**Shandria Dixon**

Office of the Secretary  
Office of Communications  
202.208.3752

**To:** Spector, Rachel[rachel.spector@sol.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Banco, Nicholas[nicholas\_banco@ios.doi.gov]; Clarice Julka[clarice\_julka@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Swift, Heather  
**Sent:** 2017-10-26T12:04:20-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: OS-2017-00617 Question Requiring Immediate Response  
**Received:** 2017-10-26T12:05:10-04:00

I have no problem releasing it.

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Thu, Oct 26, 2017 at 12:00 PM, Spector, Rachel <[rachel.spector@sol.doi.gov](mailto:rachel.spector@sol.doi.gov)> wrote:

Hi Heather:

Thanks again for chatting with me about this yesterday. I'm writing to confirm that you do not see any harm in releasing the attached email exchange in full. As we discussed, the

(b) (5)

We are planning to make the release tomorrow unless you tell us that your assessment on harm has changed.

Many thanks,

Rachel

Rachel Spector  
Division of General Law  
Office of the Solicitor  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 208-6029

On Wed, Oct 25, 2017 at 10:26 AM, Banco, Nicholas <[nicholas\\_banco@ios.doi.gov](mailto:nicholas_banco@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Hi Heather,

We're currently in litigation with the Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington regarding a request for the Secretary's comments at a March 23, 2017 meeting with the American Petroleum Institute.

At Ed Keable's behest, we have prioritized the processing of the attached request to complete it as soon as possible. To that end, we have been working with Rachel Spector of SOL for legal review.

In the course of our analysis we found a communication from you concerning the Secretary's messaging. SOL has inquired (b) (5)

Please provide confirmation as soon as possible to help us close one of the Department's active litigations!

Thanks,

Nick

--

Nicholas Banco  
Department of the Interior  
Office of the Secretary, FOIA Office  
[1849 C Street, NW](#), MS-7023  
Washington, D.C. 20240  
[Nicholas\\_Banco@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Nicholas_Banco@ios.doi.gov)  
(202) 513-0806 - phone

**To:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Clarice Julka[clarice\_julka@ios.doi.gov]; Rachel Spector[rachel.spector@sol.doi.gov]  
**From:** Banco, Nicholas  
**Sent:** 2017-10-25T11:06:20-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: OS-2017-00617 Question Requiring Immediate Response  
**Received:** 2017-10-25T11:07:08-04:00

Hi Heather,  
Thanks for the quick response!

-Nick

On Wed, Oct 25, 2017 at 10:42 AM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

I don't remember (b) (5) [REDACTED]. It appears Megan asked me to reword something and I did. I see she notes she is going over remarks with him at the end but it's very common for us to throw 4 extra things at him when we finish remarks.

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Wed, Oct 25, 2017 at 10:26 AM, Banco, Nicholas <[nicholas\\_banco@ios.doi.gov](mailto:nicholas_banco@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Hi Heather,  
We're currently in litigation with the Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington regarding a request for the Secretary's comments at a March 23, 2017 meeting with the American Petroleum Institute.

At Ed Keable's behest, we have prioritized the processing of the attached request to complete it as soon as possible. To that end, we have been working with Rachel Spector of SOL for legal review.

In the course of our analysis we found a communication from you concerning the Secretary's messaging. SOL has inquired (b) (5) [REDACTED]

Please provide confirmation as soon as possible to help us close one of the Department's active litigations!

Thanks,

Nick

--

Nicholas Banco  
Department of the Interior  
Office of the Secretary, FOIA Office  
[1849 C Street, NW](#), MS-7023  
Washington, D.C. 20240  
[Nicholas\\_Banco@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Nicholas_Banco@ios.doi.gov)  
(202) 513-0806 - phone

--

Nicholas Banco  
Department of the Interior  
Office of the Secretary, FOIA Office  
1849 C Street, NW, MS-7023  
Washington, D.C. 20240  
[Nicholas\\_Banco@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Nicholas_Banco@ios.doi.gov)  
(202) 513-0806 - phone

**To:** Barnum, Jeremy[jeremy\_barnum@nps.gov]  
**Cc:** Laura Rigas[laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov]; Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]; Paul Ross[paul\_ross@ios.doi.gov]; April Slayton[april\_slayton@nps.gov]  
**From:** Newell, Russell  
**Sent:** 2017-10-04T17:30:55-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: PEER News Release on SOI at Channel Islands  
**Received:** 2017-10-04T17:31:02-04:00

thanks Jeremy - yes, please send them our way.

Russell Newell  
Deputy Director of Communications  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 208-6232  
@Interior

On Wed, Oct 4, 2017 at 5:28 PM, Barnum, Jeremy <[jeremy\\_barnum@nps.gov](mailto:jeremy_barnum@nps.gov)> wrote:

DOI Colleagues,

We were just alerted to the below news release related to a PEER FOIA request from earlier this year related to the Secretary and Channel Islands.

The park is planning to refer queries to Interior Press, unless you would like for us to do otherwise.

Thanks,

Jeremy

<https://www.peer.org/news/news-releases/zinke-commandeered-boat-for-channel-islands-jaunt.html>.

For Immediate Release: Oct 04, 2017  
Contact: Kirsten Stade (202) 265-7337

ZINKE COMMANDEERED BOAT FOR CHANNEL ISLANDS JAUNT  
Diverted to Pick Up Wife, Aunt, and Guests He Classified as “Technical Experts”

Posted on Oct 04, 2017 | Tags: California, DOI, NPS

Washington, DC — Exorbitant travel by the Interior Secretary is not limited to charter planes but includes seagoing vessels, according to documents released today by Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility (PEER). In mid-April, Ryan Zinke diverted a National Park Service (NPS) boat to pick him and family members up for a three-hour island tour featuring a Junior Ranger swearing-in ceremony.

On April 18th, the NPS boat Ocean Ranger left its Ventura, California port to travel to Santa Barbara Harbor to pick up Zinke, his wife, and aunt to take them and other members of his party to Santa Rosa Island, part of the Channel Islands National Park, and back that same day.

The party spent more time at sea than on the island, with a three-hour itinerary that consisted largely of photo ops, a tour, lunch, and Zinke swearing in middle school students as Junior Rangers. Notably –

Use of the government ship cost taxpayers around \$4,000 dollars, including fuel and crew overtime, an estimate that does not include significant time by several NPS staff people; Zinke also brought along two local fishermen whom he classified as “technical experts” though on what issue is unclear. As such, they traveled free; and

To pay for his wife and aunt, NPS presented Zinke with a bill for \$142, which by mid-June increased to \$152 in late fees. The bill appears to have been paid by late June.

“There is nothing deeply wrong with this ‘grip-and-grin’ tour but it is galling when the Secretary is telling everyone else to tighten their belts,” stated PEER Executive Director Jeff Ruch who obtained the documents under the Freedom of Information Act after employees complained of the time and expense lost for no discernible purpose. “Taxpayers should not foot the bill for public officials acting as tourists.”

The records also describe Zinke expressing a desire to open a “working demonstration ranch” on Santa Rosa Island to “highlight the island’s ranching heritage,” quoting a note from the park superintendent. The Zinke tour group also included members of the Vail family which ran a cattle ranch on the island until 1998 and a commercial hunting operation there until 2011.

The Channel Islands are often called “the Galapagos Islands of North America” due to the unique and wide diversity of plants and animals found nowhere else on earth. In recent years, NPS has undertaken a major and costly effort to preserve and protect these native resources, including removal of nonnative plants and animals, recovery of island foxes, and reestablishment of bald eagles.

“Cattle and imported game animals are not the ‘heritage’ of Santa Rosa but an aberrant moment in its history,” added Ruch, noting a recent Zinke directive to maximize hunting opportunities even on national park lands. “Our major concern is that Ryan Zinke wants to turn this ecological jewel back into a game preserve.”

###

Look at records about Ocean Ranger expenses

See Zinke’s technical experts

Look at Zinke bill of collection

View the Zinke itinerary

Read Zinke “demonstration ranch” idea

Revisit Channel Islands ecological restoration

<https://www.peer.org/news/news-releases/zinke-commandeered-boat-for-channel-islands-jaunt.html>



**To:** Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Howarth, Robert[robert\_howarth@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Rigas, Laura  
**Sent:** 2017-09-11T11:05:13-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Please call me, thanks, Rob  
**Received:** 2017-09-11T11:05:19-04:00

Scott asked to HOLD until a question is answered. Please don't send out yet. It should be answered soon, though. Thanks!

*Laura Keehner Rigas*  
*Communications Director*  
*U.S. Department of the Interior*  
*(202) 897-7022 cell*  
*@Interior*

On Mon, Sep 11, 2017 at 10:56 AM, Heather Swift <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

I am good but looping in Laura.

Heather Swift  
Press Secretary  
Department of the Interior

On Sep 11, 2017, at 10:55 AM, Howarth, Robert <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Sorry, missed your call. Are we ready to send the Wildland Fire Directive Memo?

Please advise.

Thanks, Rob

On Mon, Sep 11, 2017 at 10:51 AM, Heather Swift <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Just gave you a ring. I'm in the quiet car on a train so can't talk long. (b) (6)

Heather Swift  
Press Secretary  
Department of the Interior

On Sep 11, 2017, at 9:30 AM, Howarth, Robert <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

--

Robert Howarth  
Deputy Director for Correspondence and FOIA Management  
Office of the Executive Secretariat and Regulatory Affairs  
Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20240  
202-208-3181  
202-208-4451 (direct)  
202-549-8961 (cell)

--

Robert Howarth  
Deputy Director for Correspondence and FOIA Management  
Office of the Executive Secretariat and Regulatory Affairs  
Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20240  
202-208-3181  
202-208-4451 (direct)  
202-549-8961 (cell)

**To:** Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Brittany Patterson  
**Sent:** 2017-09-05T20:50:42-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** RE: Prominent enviros call out Interior Dept. for secretive reg reforms  
**Received:** 2017-09-05T20:50:53-04:00

I'll most certainly ask. We also have FOIA logs, so I can check those myself.

---

**From:** Heather Swift [heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 05, 2017 8:44 PM  
**To:** Brittany Patterson  
**Subject:** Re: Prominent enviros call out Interior Dept. for secretive reg reforms

Sorry I'm not seeing any proof or details of their claims here. Im asking because I'm told that their claim is not accurate. Can you please ask them to clarify?

Do they have a list of dated requests that DOI has supposedly ignored? Are they counting requests for deliberative documents as "ignored"? If so, they are feeding misleading and false information.

"The Department is engaged in a thoughtful and deliberative process for assessing regulatory reform. The FOIA recognizes through its application of the deliberative process privilege in exemption 5 that it is appropriate for agencies to engage in the deliberative process before engaging with the public."

Heather Swift  
Press Secretary  
Department of the Interior

On Sep 5, 2017, at 7:45 PM, Brittany Patterson <[bpatterson@eenews.net](mailto:bpatterson@eenews.net)> wrote:

**\*\*\*UNDER EMBARGO UNTIL WED., SEPT. 6 AT 7 AM ET\*\*\***

Under the guise of “energy dominance,” President Donald Trump is pursuing the largest rollback of environmental regulations and policies in history.

**On Wednesday, in order to shed light on the many secretive regulatory review processes being undertaken by the Trump administration, several prominent national environmental groups are sending letters to Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke and other officials demanding the**

**department adhere to the Freedom of Information Act and other laws that govern transparency and accountability around federal decision-making.**

## **What These Letters Say**

The letters are focused on policies for [oil and gas development](#), [methane waste prevention](#), and [mitigation](#). They point out that the Interior Department has largely failed to engage the public in its proposed and enacted reforms to policies across its broad portfolio, from the management of oil and gas development to the protection of national parks and wildlife—in stark contrast to the robust public process used to establish the regulations.

The department has failed to respond to at least 50 FOIA requests—submitted in recent months by The Wilderness Society, Defenders of Wildlife, National Parks Conservation Association, Western Environmental Law Center, Natural Resources Defense Council, and other groups—for information on these reforms, which are mostly taking place behind closed doors.

The missives highlight how, if successful, these Interior Department appointee-led efforts will have disastrous consequences for Americans, our public lands, and even energy developers. That's because many of the policies on the chopping block are important not only for protecting public lands and the clean air and water they provide, but also for the predictability and efficiency they afford companies.

In fact, recent news stories (e.g., [this Politico piece](#)) have pointed out that even the fossil fuels industry is worried that Trump is taking regulatory reforms too far.

## **Requests Ignored**

The Wilderness Society alone has submitted approximately 30 FOIA requests over the past three months asking for reports and other information on the administration's reorganization and regulatory reform efforts. Yet, despite a 20-business-day statutorily-mandated deadline for responses, all but one of these requests have been ignored.

The single response TWS received, from the Bureau of Land Management, claimed that the agency did not have a report that it was required to produce by May 12 under President Trump's March 28 "Energy Independence" executive order.

From what we know, other conservation organizations, public interest groups, and reporters seeking information from Interior via FOIA are faring no better, and multiple lawsuits have already been filed to challenge the Trump administration's efforts to shield critical information from the public and media.

## **What They're Hiding**

In the name of addressing so-called “regulatory burdens” on oil, gas, and coal companies and “streamlining” processes put in place to protect the American people and their water, air, and lands, the Department of the Interior is being systematically dismantled at the hands of President Trump and Secretary Zinke, with little or no public input or oversight by Congress.

The policies being rolled back were put in place by previous administrations to conserve wildlife habitat and protect national parks; provide for public input and a balanced approach to fossil fuel development; ensure access for hunters, fishers, and other recreational users; get taxpayers their fair share for resource extraction; fix historic imbalances in land management; require the extractive industries to clean up pollution and address other impacts; address the causes and consequences of climate change; and support many other values held dear by Americans.

They were created through extensive, transparent public processes that take many years and ensure that all stakeholders have a say in how public lands are managed—including industry, state and local government, Native American Tribes, and other American citizens.

## **Why It Matters**

Many of the administration's actions violate the spirit, if not the actual laws, of the 1976 Federal Land Policy Management Act and National Forest Management Act, the “organic” legislation providing guidelines for how our public lands and national forests are to be managed by the federal government on behalf of the American people.

Other laws being ignored or violated include the National Environmental Policy Act, Endangered Species Act, and National Historic Preservation Act.

**The secrecy and deceptiveness surrounding this administration's attempts to undo environmental regulations—including the Interior Department's willingness to violate FOIA—indicates how far they will go to sell out our public lands to oil, gas, and coal companies. And these efforts are a serious threat to participatory democracy.**

The administration and Secretary Zinke must immediately correct course and ensure that these reviews provide transparency, engender robust public engagement, and follow the laws of our nation.

Consistent with the desires of the American people, the goals of the reviews should be to maintain and strengthen policies that protect our air, water, wildlife, and public lands—not weaken or remove them.

**To:** Ben Lefebvre[blefebvre@politico.com]  
**From:** Heather Swift  
**Sent:** 2017-12-07T20:08:19-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: question from Politico  
**Received:** 2017-12-07T20:08:26-05:00

To more fully respond to your ridiculous line of questioning.

After a congressional hearing, the Secretary attended an official Congressional event with the Congressman from Montana and the Speaker of the House before going to an emergency management briefing. On the other occasion he did an aerial survey of a power line corridor, which was pending before the Department, while traveling back from meetings in southern Virginia in order to get to a meeting with the Vice President. All official government business despite your own opinions.

Heather Swift  
Press Secretary  
Department of the Interior

On Dec 7, 2017, at 6:28 PM, Heather Swift <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

The swearing in of the Congressman is absolutely an official event, as is emergency management training. Shame on you for not respecting the office of a Member of Congress.

Heather Swift  
Press Secretary  
Department of the Interior

On Dec 7, 2017, at 3:46 PM, Ben Lefebvre <[blefebvre@politico.com](mailto:blefebvre@politico.com)> wrote:

Hi Heather,

Hope you are well. I was glancing at some newly released DOI OS travel documents I received via FOIA. I see that on June 20, Sec. Zinke justified ordering a USPP helicopter to fly him to an 3 p.m. event in West Virginia,

with the justification that he had to attend an event in D.C. until 2pm. But the D.C. event was Rep. Gianforte's swearing-in. Does DOI consider that swearing-in official business, especially given that Gianforte and his wife donated to Zinke's Congressional campaigns?

Also, on July 7, Zinke took a USPP helicopter to an event in Yorktown, Va., justifying it by saying he needed to be back in D.C. for a 4 p.m. event. That D.C. event was horseback riding with VP Pence. Again, did DOI consider that official business of the sort that necessitated a ~\$6,000 helicopter ride?

I know you already gave us a list of the times Sec. Zinke has used charter flights. Is there a way to get a more complete list of the times he has used government aircraft?

Thank you,

Ben Lefebvre  
Oil & gas policy reporter, POLITICOPro  
Desk: 703-647-8775  
Mobile/WhatsApp: (b) (6)  
Proton: [bjlefebvre@protonmail.com](mailto:bjlefebvre@protonmail.com)  
Twitter: @bjlefebvre

**To:** Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Jeremy Barnum  
**Sent:** 2017-12-01T18:05:51-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: checking in on a few fronts  
**Received:** 2017-12-01T18:06:20-05:00

I haven't heard anything like this. Will check.

Jeremy Barnum  
Public Affairs Officer  
National Park Service

On Dec 1, 2017, at 1:16 PM, Heather Swift <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

This isn't true is it?

Heather Swift  
Press Secretary  
Department of the Interior

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Eilperin, Juliet" <[Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com](mailto:Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com)>  
**Date:** December 1, 2017 at 1:10:31 PM EST  
**To:** "[Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)" <[Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)>, "Swift, Heather" <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Subject:** **checking in on a few fronts**

Three, it appears that regional NPS FOIA officers are now saying that all FOIA requests are being processed through the Office of the Secretary, which is a change from just a couple of weeks ago. Is it possible to get a comment on why this policy shift occurred?



**To:** Jorjani, Daniel[daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]; Russell Newell[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Downey Magallanes  
**Sent:** 2017-09-06T00:05:34-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Comment on enviro comments  
**Received:** 2017-09-06T00:05:41-04:00

Agreed with Dan statement

On Sep 5, 2017, at 7:32 PM, Jorjani, Daniel <[daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov](mailto:daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov)> wrote:

No worries.

On Tue, Sep 5, 2017 at 7:30 PM, Heather Swift <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Thanks, dan. I'll dig more and see if I can see what they are citing specifically.

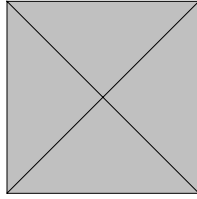
Heather Swift  
Press Secretary  
Department of the Interior

On Sep 5, 2017, at 6:49 PM, Jorjani, Daniel <[daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov](mailto:daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov)> wrote:

I'm not sure if the basic facts are accurate - 50 FOIA requests with zero response. It is likely that (b) (5)

[REDACTED]

In any case, if you need to respond, you could say something like, "The Department is engaged in a thoughtful and deliberative process for assessing regulatory reform. The FOIA recognizes though its application of the deliberative process privilege in exemption 5 that it is appropriate for agencies to engage in the deliberative process before engaging with the public." For context, you could add, "It has been a common practice to protect the deliberative process in agency decision making for decades, consistent with our legal obligations under the FOIA as a sound management practice to ensure that internal deliberative communications are unfettered and robust. Interior's management of regulatory reform is therefore consistent with both the law and with sound management practices of the last several administrations."



**Daniel H. Jorjani**  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
Acting Solicitor & Principal Deputy Solicitor  
Main Interior Building, Suite 6356  
☎ •202-219-3861 (Voice)  
•202-706-9018 (Cell)  
•[daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov](mailto:daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov)

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On Tue, Sep 5, 2017 at 6:01 PM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Dan/Downey -- Thoughts?

-

Hi Team,

Writing a short story for tomorrow's Climatewire on comments being submitted by a half-dozen national environmental groups. In their letters, they claim Interior is not being transparent in its regulatory reform efforts. In part they highlight a lack of response to FOIA requests.

“The department has failed to respond to at least 50 FOIA requests—submitted in recent months by The Wilderness Society, Defenders of Wildlife, National Parks Conservation Association, Western Environmental Law Center, Natural Resources Defense Council, and other groups—for information on these reforms, which are mostly taking place behind closed doors.”

Wanted to reach out and see if you'd like to respond or provide a comment. Apologies for the late request – this just landed in my inbox.

Thanks,

Brittany

Brittany Patterson

Reporter, E&E News' *Climatewire*

[bpatterson@eenews.net](mailto:bpatterson@eenews.net)

O: 202-446-0417

C: (b) (5)

[@amusedbrit](https://twitter.com/amusedbrit)

---

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Energywire, Climatewire, Greenwire, E&E Daily, E&E News PM

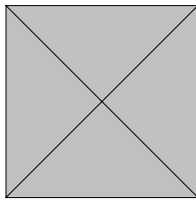
**To:** Jorjani, Daniel[daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov]  
**From:** Heather Swift  
**Sent:** 2017-09-05T20:42:06-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Comment on enviro comments  
**Received:** 2017-09-05T20:42:17-04:00

No. Sorry.

Heather Swift  
Press Secretary  
Department of the Interior

On Sep 5, 2017, at 7:36 PM, Jorjani, Daniel <[daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov](mailto:daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov)> wrote:

Are you asking me?



**Daniel H. Jorjani**  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
Acting Solicitor & Principal Deputy Solicitor  
Main Interior Building, Suite 6356  
☎ •202-219-3861 (Voice)  
•202-706-9018 (Cell)  
•[daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov](mailto:daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov)

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On Tue, Sep 5, 2017 at 7:32 PM, Heather Swift <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Is this 50 separate FOIA requests or requests for something like 5 requests for 10 different people's records? Trying to understand what the 50 number relates to specifically.

Heather Swift  
Press Secretary  
Department of the Interior

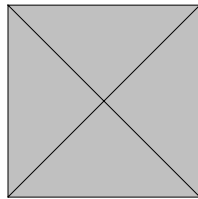
On Sep 5, 2017, at 6:49 PM, Jorjani, Daniel <[daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov](mailto:daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov)> wrote:

I'm not sure if the basic facts are accurate - 50 FOIA requests with zero response. It is likely that (b) (5)

[REDACTED]

(b) (5)

In any case, if you need to respond, you could say something like, "The Department is engaged in a thoughtful and deliberative process for assessing regulatory reform. The FOIA recognizes through its application of the deliberative process privilege in exemption 5 that it is appropriate for agencies to engage in the deliberative process before engaging with the public." For context, you could add, "It has been a common practice to protect the deliberative process in agency decision making for decades, consistent with our legal obligations under the FOIA as a sound management practice to ensure that internal deliberative communications are unfettered and robust. Interior's management of regulatory reform is therefore consistent with both the law and with sound management practices of the last several administrations."



**Daniel H. Jorjani**  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
Acting Solicitor & Principal Deputy Solicitor  
Main Interior Building, Suite 6356  
☎ •202-219-3861 (Voice)  
•202-706-9018 (Cell)  
•[daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov](mailto:daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov)

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Dan/Downey -- Thoughts?

-

Hi Team,

Writing a short story for tomorrow's Climatewire on comments being submitted by a half-dozen national environmental groups. In their letters, they claim Interior is not being transparent in its regulatory reform efforts. In part they highlight a lack of response to FOIA requests.

"The department has failed to respond to at least 50 FOIA requests—submitted in recent months by The Wilderness Society, Defenders of Wildlife,

National Parks Conservation Association, Western Environmental Law Center, Natural Resources Defense Council, and other groups—for information on these reforms, which are mostly taking place behind closed doors.”

Wanted to reach out and see if you'd like to respond or provide a comment.  
Apologies for the late request – this just landed in my inbox.

Thanks,

Brittany

Brittany Patterson

Reporter, E&E News' *Climatewire*

[bpatterson@eenews.net](mailto:bpatterson@eenews.net)

O: 202-446-0417

C: (b) (6)

[@amusedbrit](https://twitter.com/amusedbrit)

---

## **E&E NEWS**

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Energywire, Climatewire, Greenwire, E&E Daily, E&E News PM

**To:** Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Interior Press[interior\_press@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Brittany Patterson  
**Sent:** 2017-09-05T19:45:53-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Comment on enviro comments  
**Received:** 2017-09-05T19:46:02-04:00

I forwarded the release to you. Please note the embargo.

On Sep 5, 2017, at 7:33 PM, Heather Swift <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Is this 50 separate FOIA requests or requests for something like 5 requests for 10 different people's records? Trying to understand what the 50 number relates to specifically.

Heather Swift  
Press Secretary  
Department of the Interior

On Sep 5, 2017, at 5:50 PM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Brittany, is this regarding litigation?

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Tue, Sep 5, 2017 at 5:29 PM, Brittany Patterson <[bpatterson@eenews.net](mailto:bpatterson@eenews.net)> wrote:

Hi Team,

Writing a short story for tomorrow's Climatewire on comments being submitted by a half-dozen national environmental groups. In their letters, they claim Interior is not being transparent in its regulatory reform efforts. In part they highlight a lack of response to FOIA requests.

“The department has failed to respond to at least 50 FOIA requests—submitted in recent months by The Wilderness Society, Defenders of Wildlife, National Parks Conservation Association, Western Environmental Law Center, Natural Resources Defense Council, and other groups—for information on these reforms, which are mostly taking place behind closed doors.”

Wanted to reach out and see if you'd like to respond or provide a comment. Apologies for the late request – this just landed in my inbox.

Thanks,

Brittany

Brittany Patterson

Reporter, E&E News' *Climatewire*

[bpatterson@eenews.net](mailto:bpatterson@eenews.net)

O: 202-446-0417

C: (b) (6)

[@amusedbrit](https://twitter.com/amusedbrit)

---

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Energywire, Climatewire, Greenwire, E&E Daily, E&E News PM



**To:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Interior Press[interior\_press@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Brittany Patterson  
**Sent:** 2017-09-05T17:52:40-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** RE: Comment on enviro comments  
**Received:** 2017-09-05T17:52:53-04:00

Nope, they're comment letters in regards to the ongoing regulatory review Interior is doing under EO 13777.

Brittany Patterson  
Reporter, E&E News' *Climatewire*  
[bpatterson@eenews.net](mailto:bpatterson@eenews.net)  
O: 202-446-0417  
C: (b) (6)  
[@amusedbrit](https://twitter.com/amusedbrit)

**From:** Swift, Heather [mailto:heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 05, 2017 5:51 PM  
**To:** Brittany Patterson <bpatterson@eenews.net>  
**Cc:** Interior Press <interior\_press@ios.doi.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Comment on enviro comments

Brittany, is this regarding litigation?

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
[@DOIPressSec](https://twitter.com/DOIPressSec)  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Tue, Sep 5, 2017 at 5:29 PM, Brittany Patterson <[bpatterson@eenews.net](mailto:bpatterson@eenews.net)> wrote:  
Hi Team,

Writing a short story for tomorrow's Climatewire on comments being submitted by a half-dozen national environmental groups. In their letters, they claim Interior is not being transparent in its regulatory reform efforts. In part they highlight a lack of response to FOIA requests.

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Wanted to reach out and see if you'd like to respond or provide a comment. Apologies for the late request – this just landed in my inbox.

Thanks,  
Brittany

Brittany Patterson  
Reporter, E&E News' *Climatewire*  
[bpatterson@eenews.net](mailto:bpatterson@eenews.net)  
O: 202-446-0417  
C: (b) (6)  
[@amusedbrit](https://twitter.com/amusedbrit)

---

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Energywire, Climatewire, Greenwire, E&E Daily, E&E News PM

**To:** Emily.Flitter@thomsonreuters.com[Emily.Flitter@thomsonreuters.com]  
**Cc:** Interior Press[Interior\_Press@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Swift, Heather  
**Sent:** 2017-11-03T09:19:17-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Comment on Wilderness Society et al lawsuit on Monuments FOIA?  
**Received:** 2017-11-03T09:20:04-04:00

Please contact DOJ for any questions regarding litigation

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Fri, Nov 3, 2017 at 9:14 AM, <[Emily.Flitter@thomsonreuters.com](mailto:Emily.Flitter@thomsonreuters.com)> wrote:

Hi,

Yesterday, six environmental groups sued Interior and the White House Council on Environmental Quality over FOIA requests the groups said Interior and the WH CEQ aren't honoring. Here's the complaint

<https://earthjustice.org/sites/default/files/files/Monuments-FOIA-Complaint-timestamped.pdf>

I'm writing a short story on this – do you want to comment, please? I'm on my cell today:

(b) (6)

Best,

Emily

Emily Flitter  
Correspondent

**Thomson Reuters**

Phone: 1 646 223 6310

@FlitterOnFraud  
[thomsonreuters.com](https://www.thomsonreuters.com)

**To:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Pamela King  
**Sent:** 2017-11-21T14:30:40-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** RE: Deadline 5 pm eastern -- FOIA lawsuits  
**Received:** 2017-11-21T14:31:05-05:00

Thank you, Heather.

**From:** Swift, Heather [mailto:heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 21, 2017 2:29 PM  
**To:** Pamela King <pking@eenews.net>  
**Cc:** interior\_press@ios.doi.gov; Crandall, Megan <mcrandal@blm.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Deadline 5 pm eastern -- FOIA lawsuits

Please direct questions regarding litigation to DOJ

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Tue, Nov 21, 2017 at 2:26 PM, Pamela King <[pking@eenews.net](mailto:pking@eenews.net)> wrote:  
Good afternoon,

I'm writing up a quick story about two lawsuits related to requests for records and reports associated with S.O. 3354. Is Interior or BLM able to comment?

Thank you,

**Pamela King**  
E&E News reporter  
[pking@eenews.net](mailto:pking@eenews.net)  
202-446-0458 (office)  
(b) (6) (mobile)  
[@pamelalauren](https://twitter.com/pamelalauren)

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Energywire, Climatewire, Greenwire, E&E Daily, E&E News PM

**To:** Lowery, Steve[[steve\\_lowery@ios.doi.gov](mailto:steve_lowery@ios.doi.gov)]  
**From:** Swift, Heather  
**Sent:** 2017-09-19T13:31:25-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Doc for Exec Sec - Deadline 7:00PM  
**Received:** 2017-09-19T13:33:07-04:00

Wonderful. One typo of mine I caught was Richey Montana is misspelled as Richie. Richey is the correct spelling.

Address --- Jocelyn Cahill (b) (6)

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Tue, Sep 19, 2017 at 1:26 PM, Lowery, Steve <[steve\\_lowery@ios.doi.gov](mailto:steve_lowery@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Hi Heather!

I'm working with Rob on Joceylin Cahill's letter. We have the sign off from Ethics. It's with Mr. Jorjani for review now.

I'm putting the letter in the proper format and require a mailing or physical address. Do you have that information for Ms. Cahill?

Thanks so much for you help!

Steve

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Howarth, Robert <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Date:** Tue, Sep 19, 2017 at 10:28 AM  
**Subject:** Re: Doc for Exec Sec - Deadline 7:00PM  
**To:** "Loftin, Melinda" <[melinda.loftin@sol.doi.gov](mailto:melinda.loftin@sol.doi.gov)>, Edward McDonnell <[edward.mcdonnell@sol.doi.gov](mailto:edward.mcdonnell@sol.doi.gov)>  
**Cc:** Steve Lowery <[steve\\_lowery@ios.doi.gov](mailto:steve_lowery@ios.doi.gov)>

Good morning. Have a rush. Please respond to this email (tight timeline) with your surname and that the proposed letter can be placed on Secretary letterhead and that he can sign as the Secretary of the Interior.

Either Steve or I will be handling this package.

Thanks, Rob

Rob

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Swift, Heather** <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)>  
Date: Tue, Sep 19, 2017 at 10:17 AM  
Subject: Doc for Exec Sec - Deadline 7:00PM  
To: "Howarth, Robert" <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)>

**Rob** - Attached is a draft letter from the Secretary to a gal in Montana who used to work for him in the Congressional office. She is leading efforts to rebuild a one room school in her community.

The letter commends her for being active and taking a leadership role in the community.

Scott and Jorjani reviewed and asked me to send it to you for exec sec process to get put on letterhead.

Apologies for short deadline but it's due today at 7:00PM for her town meeting. I tried to get this going last Thursday but just got the draft OKed.

Do you think we can get this out the door today for her? I'm happy to lend Alex to do the running around.

Thank you!

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

--

Robert Howarth  
Deputy Director for Correspondence and FOIA Management  
Office of the Executive Secretariat and Regulatory Affairs  
Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20240  
202-208-3181  
202-208-4451 (direct)  
202-549-8961 (cell)

--

Steve F. Lowery  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
Writer/Editor for Indian Affairs  
Office of the Executive Secretariat

(202) 208-5291



**To:** Howarth, Robert[robert\_howarth@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]; Nachmany, Eli[eli\_nachmany@ios.doi.gov];  
Magallanes, Downey[downey\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov]; Newell, Russell[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov];  
Juliette Lillie[juliette\_lillie@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Laura Rigas  
**Sent:** 2017-09-20T06:47:24-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: DRAFT Secretary Zinke National Monument Op-Ed  
**Received:** 2017-09-20T06:47:32-04:00

Ok, that worked for me. Thx!

Laura Keehner Rigas  
Communications Director  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 897-7022 cell  
@Interior

On Sep 20, 2017, at 5:51 AM, Howarth, Robert <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Good morning. Attached are my suggested edits to the Op-Ed. In terms of the process moving forward, I will obtain Dan Jojani's surname and then email you the latest redline incorporating any changes from Dan. I suggest you reach out to the WH as OES does not work with the WH Staff Sec. Once cleared by the WH, we will take the package to Scott for final approval. OK?

Rob

On Tue, Sep 19, 2017 at 6:09 PM, Rigas, Laura <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Robert --

Attached please find an op-ed the Secretary would like to pitch to a news outlet tomorrow evening. We understand that the WH has instituted a new procedure of sending any op-eds from Cabinet Secretaries through Staff Sec at the WH. Can you please clear it with SOL and then send it over to the WH Staff Sec for approval? Sec. Zinke, Downey and OCO have signed off.

Thanks!

My best,

L

*Laura Keehner Rigas  
Communications Director  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 897-7022 cell  
@Interior*

--

Robert Howarth  
Deputy Director for Correspondence and FOIA Management  
Office of the Executive Secretariat and Regulatory Affairs  
Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20240  
202-208-3181  
202-208-4451 (direct)  
202-549-8961 (cell)

<0919 RZ OpEd Monument Review OES edits.docx>

**To:** Rigas, Laura[laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]; Nachmany, Eli[eli\_nachmany@ios.doi.gov]; Magallanes, Downey[downey\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov]; Newell, Russell[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov]; Juliette Lillie[juliette\_lillie@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Howarth, Robert  
**Sent:** 2017-09-20T05:50:57-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: DRAFT Secretary Zinke National Monument Op-Ed  
**Received:** 2017-09-20T05:51:00-04:00  
[0919 RZ OpEd Monument Review OES edits.docx](#)

Good morning. Attached are my suggested edits to the Op-Ed. In terms of the process moving forward, I will obtain Dan Jojani's surname and then email you the latest redline incorporating any changes from Dan. I suggest you reach out to the WH as OES does not work with the WH Staff Sec. Once cleared by the WH, we will take the package to Scott for final approval. OK?

Rob

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Attached please find an op-ed the Secretary would like to pitch to a news outlet tomorrow evening. We understand that the WH has instituted a new procedure of sending any op-eds from Cabinet Secretaries through Staff Sec at the WH. Can you please clear it with SOL and then send it over to the WH Staff Sec for approval? Sec. Zinke, Downey and OCO have signed off.

Thanks!

My best,

L

*Laura Keehner Rigas  
Communications Director  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 897-7022 cell  
@Interior*

--

Robert Howarth  
Deputy Director for Correspondence and FOIA Management  
Office of the Executive Secretariat and Regulatory Affairs  
Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20240  
202-208-3181  
202-208-4451 (direct)  
202-549-8961 (cell)

**To:** Jim Dalrymple[jim.dalrymple@buzzfeed.com]  
**Cc:** interior\_press@ios.doi.gov[interior\_press@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Heather Swift  
**Sent:** 2017-11-02T18:28:20-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Earthjustice et al lawsuit/BuzzFeed News questions  
**Received:** 2017-11-02T18:29:21-04:00

Please contact the Department of Justice for questions regarding litigation.

Heather Swift  
Press Secretary  
Department of the Interior

On Nov 2, 2017, at 4:36 PM, 'Jim Dalrymple' via Interior Press <[interior\\_press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:interior_press@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Hello,  
I'm with BuzzFeed News. Today a group of environmental groups filed a suit alleging that their FOIA requests on the monument review have gone unanswered. Does the Interior Department have a response to that allegation?

If FOIAs related to the monument review have gone unanswered, can you tell me why?

I've spoken with some of the people involved in the suit, and they expressed optimism that they would prevail in court and that FOIA law is on their side. Does the DOI have another interpretation of the law?

Finally, some of these groups believe that the FOIAed information will reveal politically-motivated and potentially illegal aspects of review process. Does such material exist?

We're putting something together on this now, so any information you can provide ASAP will be appreciated.

Thanks,

**Jim Dalrymple II** | **BuzzFeed** | 801 995 8396 | @JimDalrympleII  
7323 Beverly Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90036

**To:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Interior\_Press@ios.doi.gov[Interior\_Press@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Jennifer Yachnin  
**Sent:** 2017-11-03T11:36:28-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Earthjustice FOIA lawsuit  
**Received:** 2017-11-03T11:36:39-04:00

Thanks.

On Nov 3, 2017, at 9:36 AM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

DOJ

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Fri, Nov 3, 2017 at 11:32 AM, Jennifer Yachnin <[jyachnin@eenews.net](mailto:jyachnin@eenews.net)> wrote:

Hi all - Any chance you've seen the Earthjustice FOIA lawsuit and would like to comment? Thanks - Jennifer

-----  
303.355.2979 office  
(b) (6) mobile

**To:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** leah\_fairman@ios.doi.gov  
**Sent:** 2017-08-15T08:39:42-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Email Search Request - FOIA Request: OS-2017-00929  
**Received:** 2017-08-15T08:40:18-04:00

Good morning,

In this instance we believe that because the request (b) (5)

[REDACTED]. We will then (b) (5)  
[REDACTED].

Thanks!

Leah

On Mon, Aug 14, 2017 at 7:31 PM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Hello there - I'm filling this request but the request for emails (b) (5)

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]?

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Fri, Jul 28, 2017 at 9:29 AM, OS, OS FOIA <[osfoia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

All,

OS FOIA has received a Freedom of Information Act request for which we believe your Office may have responsive materials. Please use the below chart, attached copy of the FOIA request, and attached FOIA Control Form to inform us of your search efforts.

- If available, please provide responsive documents to OS FOIA electronically (CD, FOIA DMU Processing Application, email, or thumb drive). Please note that Bison Connect can pull emails electronically with the DMU Processing App's and OS staff can assist with this tool. Please contact OS FOIA if electronic documents are not available.**
- Please track the time required to search for these documents on the attached control form.**
- If you have any questions regarding the specific guidance on copying, reviewing, and submitting documents to the OS FOIA office, please call 202-513-0765.**

Please reply/send all items to [osfoia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov) - Except "FOIA/DMU Processing Tool" searches  
(Please include [osfoia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov) on all communications/discussions regarding this FOIA request.)

<b>Action Office: Office of the Secretary</b>	<b>Responsible Program Office: SIO, ASFWP</b>
<b>Current Date: 07/28/17</b>	<b>Due Date: 08/11/17</b>
<b>FOIA Request Control Number: OS-2017-00929</b>	<b>OS FOIA Contact (MIB 7328): Cindy Sweeney</b>
<b>Requester's Name: Chris Saeger</b>	<b>Amount Requester Is Willing To Pay: Fee Waiver Requested</b>

Thank you,  
Karmen

--

Department of the Interior  
Office of the Secretary, FOIA Office  
1849 C Street, NW, MS-7328  
Washington, D.C. 20240  
[os\\_foia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:os_foia@ios.doi.gov)  
(202) 513-0765 - phone  
(202) 219-2374 - fax

--

Department of the Interior  
Office of the Secretary, FOIA Office  
1849 C Street, NW, MS-7328  
Washington, D.C. 20240  
[os\\_foia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:os_foia@ios.doi.gov)  
(202) 513-0765 - phone  
(202) 219-2374 - fax

**To:** OS, OS FOIA[osfoia@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Lori Mashburn[lori\_mashburn@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Swift, Heather  
**Sent:** 2017-07-20T09:41:32-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Email Search Request - OS-2017-00545  
**Received:** 2017-07-20T09:42:19-04:00

I have nothing.

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Thu, Jul 20, 2017 at 8:36 AM, OS, OS FOIA <[osfoia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Good morning,

Doing a follow up on this, please let us know the status. This was due back in early June and the requester has sent a notice of violation of deadline and might escalate, so we are trying to get this closed.

Thank you.

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** OS, OS FOIA <[osfoia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Date:** Tue, May 16, 2017 at 11:55 AM  
**Subject:** Email Search Request - OS-2017-00545  
**To:** Lori Mashburn <[lori\\_mashburn@ios.doi.gov](mailto:lori_mashburn@ios.doi.gov)>

Hi Lori,

[If you think that anyone else would have records who are not listed in this email, please let me know.](#)

OS FOIA has received a Freedom of Information Act request for which we believe your Office may have responsive materials. Please use the below chart, attached copy of the request, and attached control form to inform your search.

- If available, please provide responsive documents to OS FOIA electronically (CD, FOIA DMU Processing Application, email, or thumb drive). Please note that Bison Connect can pull emails electronically with the DMU Processing App's and OS staff can assist with this tool. Please contact OS FOIA if electronic documents are not available.**
  
- Please track the time required to search for these documents on the attached control form.**
- **If you have any questions regarding the specific guidance on copying, reviewing, and submitting documents to the OS FOIA office, please call 202-513-0765.**



<b>Action Office:</b> <b>Office of the Secretary</b>	<b>Responsible Program Office:</b> <b>SIO</b>
<b>Current Date:</b> <b>5/16/17</b>	<b>Due Date:</b> <b>5/30/17</b>
<b>FOIA Request Control Number:</b> <b>OS-2017-00545</b>	<b>OS FOIA Contact (MIB 7328):</b> <b>Cindy Sweeney</b>
<b>Requester's Name:</b> <b>Margaret Townsend</b>	<b>Amount Requester is Willing to Pay:</b> <b>Requested fee waiver</b>

--

Department of the Interior  
Office of the Secretary, FOIA Office  
1849 C Street, NW, MS-7328  
Washington, D.C. 20240  
[os\\_foia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:os_foia@ios.doi.gov)  
(202) 513-0765 - phone  
(202) 219-2374 - fax

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Office of the Secretary, FOIA Office  
1849 C Street, NW, MS-7328  
Washington, D.C. 20240  
[os\\_foia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:os_foia@ios.doi.gov)  
(202) 513-0765 - phone  
(202) 219-2374 - fax

**To:** OS, OS FOIA[osfoia@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]; Nicholas Banco[nicholas\_banco@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Bradley, Margaret  
**Sent:** 2017-07-28T13:17:34-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Email Search Request - OS-2017-00905  
**Received:** 2017-07-28T13:17:41-04:00

Hi Heather,

We are conducting training at 10:00 a.m. on Monday, July 31, in the Deputy Secretary's conference room (6120). This training was arranged initially for the support staff in the SIO, but anyone is welcome. We plan to schedule several additional training sessions.

Margaret

Margaret Bradley  
Senior Advisor  
Office of the Executive Secretariat  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
Room 7318  
202-208-4523

On Fri, Jul 28, 2017 at 1:14 PM, OS, OS FOIA <[osfoia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Heather - I heard we are doing a training on FOIA DMU tool on Monday. Contact Nick (also from FOIA) or Margaret for details. Margaret was arranging this for front office staff.  
Ryan

On Tue, Jul 25, 2017 at 11:00 AM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Thanks! Can I get some assistance with using the app please?

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Tue, Jul 25, 2017 at 10:29 AM, OS, OS FOIA <[osfoia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Hi everyone,

OS FOIA has received a Freedom of Information Act request for which we believe your Office may have responsive materials. Please use the below chart, attached copy of the request, and attached control form to inform your search.

If available, please provide responsive documents to OS FOIA electronically (CD, FOIA DMU Processing Application, email, or thumb drive). Please note that Bison Connect can pull emails electronically with the DMU Processing App's and OS staff can assist with this tool. Please contact OS FOIA if electronic documents are not available.

Please track the time required to search for these documents on the attached control form.  
 • If you have any questions regarding the specific guidance on copying, reviewing, and submitting documents to the OS FOIA office, please call 202-513-0765.

<b>Action Office:</b>  Office of the Secretary	<b>Responsible Program Office:</b>  SIO
<b>Current Date:</b>  7/25/17	<b>Due Date:</b>  8/8/17
<b>FOIA Request Control Number:</b>  OS-2017-00905	<b>OS FOIA Contact (MIB 7328):</b>  Cindy Sweeney
<b>Requester's Name:</b>  Beth France	<b>Amount Requester is Willing to Pay:</b>  Requested fee waiver

Thanks,  
Kashieka

--  
 Department of the Interior  
 Office of the Secretary, FOIA Office  
 1849 C Street, NW, MS-7328  
 Washington, D.C. 20240  
[os\\_foia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:os_foia@ios.doi.gov)

(202) 513-0765 - phone  
(202) 219-2374 - fax

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[os\\_foia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:os_foia@ios.doi.gov)  
(202) 513-0765 - phone  
(202) 219-2374 - fax

**To:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Laura Rigas[laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov]; Maureen Foster[maureen\_foster@ios.doi.gov]; Timothy Williams[timothy\_williams@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** ryan\_mcquighan@ios.doi.gov  
**Sent:** 2017-07-25T13:38:00-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Email Search Request - OS-2017-00905  
**Received:** 2017-07-25T13:38:57-04:00

I should add, happy to help anyone else too. I'll call Heather in the morning.  
Here's a link to the [instructions](#) in case you haven't seen them.  
Ryan

On Tue, Jul 25, 2017 at 1:33 PM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Cool - tomorrow works. Thanks!

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Tue, Jul 25, 2017 at 1:22 PM, OS, OS FOIA <[osfoia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Hi Heather, I'll be in the office tomorrow and can stop by. I can also do a hangout/phone call today. I can check to see if someone in the office can help as well.  
Let me know.  
Ryan

On Tue, Jul 25, 2017 at 11:00 AM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Thanks! Can I get some assistance with using the app please?

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Tue, Jul 25, 2017 at 10:29 AM, OS, OS FOIA <[osfoia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Hi everyone,

OS FOIA has received a Freedom of Information Act request for which we believe your Office may have responsive materials. Please use the below chart, attached copy of the request, and attached control form to inform your search.

If available, please provide responsive documents to OS FOIA electronically (CD, FOIA DMU Processing Application, email, or thumb drive). Please note that Bison Connect can pull emails electronically with the DMU Processing App's and OS staff can assist with this tool. Please contact OS FOIA if electronic documents are not available.

- Please track the time required to search for these documents on the attached control form.
- If you have any questions regarding the specific guidance on copying, reviewing, and submitting documents to the OS FOIA office, please call 202-513-0765.

<b>Action Office:</b> <b>Office of the Secretary</b>	<b>Responsible Program Office:</b> <b>SIO</b>
<b>Current Date:</b> <i>7/25/17</i>	<b>Due Date:</b> <i>8/8/17</i>
<b>FOIA Request Control Number:</b> <b>OS-2017-00905</b>	<b>OS FOIA Contact (MIB 7328):</b> <b>Cindy Sweeney</b>
<b>Requester's Name:</b> <b>Beth France</b>	<b>Amount Requester is Willing to Pay:</b> <b>Requested fee waiver</b>

Thanks,  
Kashieka

--

Department of the Interior  
Office of the Secretary, FOIA Office  
1849 C Street, NW, MS-7328

Washington, D.C. 20240  
[os\\_foia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:os_foia@ios.doi.gov)  
(202) 513-0765 - phone  
(202) 219-2374 - fax

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Office of the Secretary, FOIA Office  
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Washington, D.C. 20240  
[os\\_foia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:os_foia@ios.doi.gov)  
(202) 513-0765 - phone  
(202) 219-2374 - fax

**To:** Dixon, Shandria[shandria\_dixon@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Heather Swift  
**Sent:** 2017-08-24T09:11:37-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Email Search Request - OS-2017-00932  
**Received:** 2017-08-24T09:11:47-04:00

Already submitted. Will be able to resend on Monday.

Heather Swift  
Press Secretary  
Department of the Interior

On Aug 24, 2017, at 7:03 AM, Dixon, Shandria <[shandria\\_dixon@ios.doi.gov](mailto:shandria_dixon@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

The FOIA office is requesting your search findings.  
Please advise- thanks

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **OS, OS FOIA** <[osfoia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov)>  
Date: Wed, Aug 23, 2017 at 1:23 PM  
Subject: Fwd: Email Search Request - OS-2017-00932  
To: Shandria Dixon <[shandria\\_dixon@ios.doi.gov](mailto:shandria_dixon@ios.doi.gov)>

Hi Shandria, please see below reminder. Please let us know if Heather Swift's responsive records would be the same as those she previously submitted for OS-2017-00929.

### Search Request Follow-up

RE: OS-2017-00932

Just a friendly reminder and follow-up concerning the search request for responsive documents/records from Heather Swift. Please let us know your ETA.

Appreciate your assistance.  
Thank you,  
Karmen

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **OS, OS FOIA** <[osfoia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov)>  
Date: Thu, Jul 27, 2017 at 9:49 AM  
Subject: Email Search Request - OS-2017-00932



To: "Swift, Heather" <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)>

OS FOIA has received a Freedom of Information Act request for which we believe your Office may have responsive materials. Please use the below chart, attached copy of the FOIA request, and attached FOIA Control Form to inform us of your search efforts.

- If available, please provide responsive documents to OS FOIA electronically (CD, FOIA DMU Processing Application, email, or thumb drive). Please note that Bison Connect can pull emails electronically with the DMU Processing App's and OS staff can assist with this tool. Please contact OS FOIA if electronic documents are not available.**
- Please track the time required to search for these documents on the attached control form.**
- If you have any questions regarding the specific guidance on copying, reviewing, and submitting documents to the OS FOIA office, please call 202-513-0765.**

<b>Please reply/send all items to <a href="mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov">osfoia@ios.doi.gov</a> - Except "FOIA/DMU Processing Tool" searches</b> (Please include <a href="mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov">osfoia@ios.doi.gov</a> on all communications/discussions regarding this FOIA request.)	
<b>Action Office: Office of the Secretary</b>	<b>Responsible Program Office: OS/ASFWP</b>
<b>Current Date: 07/27/17</b>	<b>Due Date: 8/10/17</b>
<b>FOIA Request Control Number: OS-2017-00932</b>	<b>OS FOIA Contact (MIB 7328): Cindy Sweeney</b>
<b>Requester's Name: Alexander Romy</b>	<b>Amount Requester Is Willing To Pay: Fee Waiver Requested</b>

Thank you,  
Kashieka

--

Department of the Interior  
Office of the Secretary, FOIA Office  
1849 C Street, NW, MS-7328  
Washington, D.C. 20240  
[os\\_foia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:os_foia@ios.doi.gov)  
(202) 513-0765 - phone  
(202) 219-2374 - fax

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Department of the Interior  
Office of the Secretary, FOIA Office  
1849 C Street, NW, MS-7328  
Washington, D.C. 20240  
[os\\_foia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:os_foia@ios.doi.gov)  
(202) 513-0765 - phone  
(202) 219-2374 - fax

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**Shandria Dixon**  
Office of the Secretary  
Office of Communications  
202.208.3752

<FOIA Control Form (4.8.16) (9).pdf>

<17-00932qa.pdf>

**To:** OS, OS FOIA[osfoia@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Swift, Heather  
**Sent:** 2017-08-15T08:59:20-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Email Search Request - OS-2017-00932  
**Received:** 2017-08-15T09:00:07-04:00

thx

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Tue, Aug 15, 2017 at 8:37 AM, OS, OS FOIA <[osfoia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Good morning,

In this instance, we believe you can (b) (5)

[REDACTED]

Thanks!

Leah

On Mon, Aug 14, 2017 at 7:43 PM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

I'm processing this FOIA request and have a question: (b) (5)

[REDACTED] ? I email with reporters on several topics every day and receive various news updates from organizations. So, (b) (5)

[REDACTED] ?

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Thu, Jul 27, 2017 at 9:49 AM, OS, OS FOIA <[osfoia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

OS FOIA has received a Freedom of Information Act request for which we believe your Office may

have responsive materials. Please use the below chart, attached copy of the FOIA request, and attached FOIA Control Form to inform us of your search efforts.

- If available, please provide responsive documents to OS FOIA electronically (CD, FOIA DMU Processing Application, email, or thumb drive). Please note that Bison Connect can pull emails electronically with the DMU Processing App's and OS staff can assist with this tool. Please contact OS FOIA if electronic documents are not available.
- Please track the time required to search for these documents on the attached control form.
- If you have any questions regarding the specific guidance on copying, reviewing, and submitting documents to the OS FOIA office, please call 202-513-0765.

<b>Please reply/send all items to <a href="mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov">osfoia@ios.doi.gov</a> - Except "FOIA/DMU Processing Tool" searches</b> (Please include <a href="mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov">osfoia@ios.doi.gov</a> on all communications/discussions regarding this FOIA request.)	
<b>Action Office:</b> Office of the Secretary	<b>Responsible Program Office:</b> OS/ASFWP
<b>Current Date:</b> 07/27/17	<b>Due Date:</b> 8/10/17
<b>FOIA Request Control Number:</b> OS-2017-00932	<b>OS FOIA Contact (MIB 7328):</b> Cindy Sweeney
<b>Requester's Name:</b> Alexander Romy	<b>Amount Requester Is Willing To Pay:</b> Fee Waiver Requested

Thank you,  
Kashieka

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1849 C Street, NW, MS-7328  
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[os\\_foia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:os_foia@ios.doi.gov)  
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[os\\_foia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:os_foia@ios.doi.gov)  
(202) 513-0765 - phone  
(202) 219-2374 - fax

**To:** Dixon, Shandria[shandria\_dixon@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Swift, Heather  
**Sent:** 2017-11-15T16:05:05-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Email Search Request OS-2017-00707  
**Received:** 2017-11-15T16:05:52-05:00

Nothing attached.

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Wed, Nov 15, 2017 at 9:11 AM, Dixon, Shandria <[shandria\\_dixon@ios.doi.gov](mailto:shandria_dixon@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

----- Forwarded message -----  
From: **OS, OS FOIA** <[osfoia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov)>  
Date: Wed, Nov 15, 2017 at 9:09 AM  
Subject: Fwd: Email Search Request OS-2017-00707  
To: Jeffrey Hunter <[jeffrey\\_hunter@ios.doi.gov](mailto:jeffrey_hunter@ios.doi.gov)>, Shandria Dixon  
<[shandria\\_dixon@ios.doi.gov](mailto:shandria_dixon@ios.doi.gov)>, Russell Roddy <[russell\\_rodny@ios.doi.gov](mailto:russell_rodny@ios.doi.gov)>, Caroline  
Boulton <[caroline\\_boulton@ios.doi.gov](mailto:caroline_boulton@ios.doi.gov)>, Lori Mashburn <[lori\\_mashburn@ios.doi.gov](mailto:lori_mashburn@ios.doi.gov)>

Good morning,  
Following up on this, this request is in litigation and we still need records for the following  
people for this request:

Lori Mashburn  
Russell Roddy  
Heather Swift  
Caroline Boulton

Thank you.

----- Forwarded message -----  
From: **OS, OS FOIA** <[osfoia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov)>  
Date: Wed, Oct 25, 2017 at 12:21 PM  
Subject: Fwd: Email Search Request OS-2017-00707  
To: Laura Rigas <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)>, Jeffrey Hunter <[jeffrey\\_hunter@ios.doi.gov](mailto:jeffrey_hunter@ios.doi.gov)>,  
Shandria Dixon <[shandria\\_dixon@ios.doi.gov](mailto:shandria_dixon@ios.doi.gov)>, Russell Roddy  
<[russell\\_rodny@ios.doi.gov](mailto:russell_rodny@ios.doi.gov)>, Caroline Boulton <[caroline\\_boulton@ios.doi.gov](mailto:caroline_boulton@ios.doi.gov)>, Lori  
Mashburn <[lori\\_mashburn@ios.doi.gov](mailto:lori_mashburn@ios.doi.gov)>

Good afternoon,

Following up on this request. Please let us know if you have records, and if so, when you expect to be able to get them to us. this request is now in litigation.

Thanks!

Leah

----- Forwarded message -----

From: OS, OS FOIA <[osfoia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov)>

Date: Thu, Oct 5, 2017 at 5:19 PM

Subject: Re: Email Search Request OS-2017-00707

To: Laura Rigas <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)>, Jeffrey Hunter <[jeffrey\\_hunter@ios.doi.gov](mailto:jeffrey_hunter@ios.doi.gov)>, Shandria Dixon <[shandria\\_dixon@ios.doi.gov](mailto:shandria_dixon@ios.doi.gov)>, Russell Roddy <[russell\\_rodny@ios.doi.gov](mailto:russell_rodny@ios.doi.gov)>, Caroline Boulton <[caroline\\_boulton@ios.doi.gov](mailto:caroline_boulton@ios.doi.gov)>, Lori Mashburn <[lori\\_mashburn@ios.doi.gov](mailto:lori_mashburn@ios.doi.gov)>

**Search Request Follow-up**

RE: OS-2017-00707

Just a friendly reminder regarding the search request for responsive documents/records. Please let us know your ETA.

Appreciate your help.

Thank you,

Karmen

On Fri, Sep 22, 2017 at 10:29 AM, OS, OS FOIA <[osfoia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

**Search Request Follow-up**

RE: OS-2017-00707

Just a friendly reminder regarding the search request for responsive documents/records. Please let us know your ETA.

Appreciate your help.

Thank you,

Karmen

On Tue, Aug 8, 2017 at 4:03 PM, OS, OS FOIA <[osfoia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

**Search Request Follow-up**

RE: OS-2017-00707

Just a friendly reminder regarding the search request for responsive documents/records. Please let us know your ETA.

Appreciate your help.

Thank you,

Karmen

On Thu, Jul 13, 2017 at 7:47 AM, OS, OS FOIA <[osfoia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

[Your assistance is appreciated. Could you please let us know of any additional persons to add as a](#)

[contact for search docs?](#)

Thank you,

Kashieka

OS FOIA has received a Freedom of Information Act request for which we believe your Office may have responsive materials. Please use the below chart, attached copy of the FOIA request, and attached FOIA Control Form to inform us of your search efforts.

- **If available, please provide responsive documents to OS FOIA electronically (CD, FOIA DMU Processing Application, email, or thumb drive). Please note that Bison Connect can pull emails electronically with the DMU Processing App's and OS staff can assist with this tool. Please contact OS FOIA if electronic documents are not available.**
- **Please track the time required to search for these documents on the attached control form.**
- **If you have any questions regarding the specific guidance on copying, reviewing, and submitting documents to the OS FOIA office, please call 202-513-0765.**

<b>Please reply/send all items to <a href="mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov">osfoia@ios.doi.gov</a> - Except "FOIA/DMU Processing Tool" searches</b> (Please include <a href="mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov">osfoia@ios.doi.gov</a> on all communications/discussions regarding this FOIA request.)	
<b>Action Office: Office of the Secretary</b>	<b>Responsible Program Office: OCO/SIO</b>
<b>Current Date: 7/13/2017</b>	<b>Due Date: 7/27/17</b>
<b>FOIA Request Control Number: OS-2017-00707</b>	<b>OS FOIA Contact (MIB 7328): Cindy Sweeney</b>
<b>Requester's Name: Chris Saeger</b>	<b>Amount Requester Is Willing To Pay: Fee Waiver Requested</b>

--  
Department of the Interior  
Office of the Secretary, FOIA Office  
[1849 C Street, NW](#), MS-7328  
Washington, D.C. 20240  
[os\\_foia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:os_foia@ios.doi.gov)  
(202) 513-0765 - phone  
(202) 219-2374 - fax



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Department of the Interior  
Office of the Secretary, FOIA Office  
[1849 C Street, NW](#), MS-7328  
Washington, D.C. 20240  
[os\\_foia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:os_foia@ios.doi.gov)  
(202) 513-0765 - phone  
(202) 219-2374 - fax

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Department of the Interior  
Office of the Secretary, FOIA Office  
[1849 C Street, NW](#), MS-7328  
Washington, D.C. 20240  
[os\\_foia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:os_foia@ios.doi.gov)  
(202) 513-0765 - phone  
(202) 219-2374 - fax

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Department of the Interior  
Office of the Secretary, FOIA Office  
[1849 C Street, NW](#), MS-7328  
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[os\\_foia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:os_foia@ios.doi.gov)  
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Department of the Interior  
Office of the Secretary, FOIA Office  
[1849 C Street, NW](#), MS-7328  
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Department of the Interior  
Office of the Secretary, FOIA Office  
[1849 C Street, NW](#), MS-7328  
Washington, D.C. 20240  
[os\\_foia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:os_foia@ios.doi.gov)  
(202) 513-0765 - phone  
(202) 219-2374 - fax

--

**Shandria Dixon**

Office of the Secretary

Office of Communications

202.208.3752

202.208.6416

**To:** Laura Rigas[laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Swift, Heather  
**Sent:** 2017-08-14T18:59:48-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Email Search Request OS-2017-00976  
**Received:** 2017-08-14T19:00:35-04:00  
[Remarks\\_ALEC\\_final.docx](#)

Laura, I received the attached FOIA for remarks, transcript or video of Zinke's speech to ALEC. Attached is the "speech" I have.

[Preview attachment 17-00976qa.pdf](#)

[17-00976qa.pdf](#)  
77 KB

-  
Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Wed, Aug 2, 2017 at 8:37 AM, OS, OS FOIA <[osfoia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

This request has been placed in the "complex" processing track.

OS FOIA has received a Freedom of Information Act request for which we believe your Office may have responsive materials. Please use the below chart, attached copy of the FOIA request, and attached FOIA Control Form to inform us of your search efforts.

- If available, please provide responsive documents to OS FOIA electronically (CD, FOIA DMU Processing Application, email, or thumb drive). Please note that Bison Connect can pull emails electronically with the DMU Processing App's and OS staff can assist with this tool. Please contact OS FOIA if electronic documents are not available.
- Please track the time required to search for these documents on the attached control form.
- If you have any questions regarding the specific guidance on copying, reviewing, and submitting documents to the OS FOIA office, please call 202-513-0765.

<b>Please reply/send all items to <a href="mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov">osfoia@ios.doi.gov</a> - Except "FOIA/DMU Processing Tool" searches</b> (Please include <a href="mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov">osfoia@ios.doi.gov</a> on all communications/discussions regarding this FOIA request.)	
<b>Action Office:</b> Office of the Secretary	<b>Responsible Program Office:</b> SIO
<b>Current Date:</b>	<b>Due Date:</b>

08/02/17	08/16/17
<b>FOIA Request Control Number:</b> OS-2017-00976	<b>OS FOIA Contact (MIB 7328):</b> Cindy Sweeney
<b>Requester's Name:</b> Thomas Edson	<b>Amount Requester Is Willing To Pay:</b> Fee Waiver Requested

Thank you,  
Kashieka

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Department of the Interior  
Office of the Secretary, FOIA Office  
1849 C Street, NW, MS-7328  
Washington, D.C. 20240  
[os\\_foia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:os_foia@ios.doi.gov)  
(202) 513-0765 - phone  
(202) 219-2374 - fax

**To:** Laura Rigas[laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Eli Nachmany[eli\_nachmany@ios.doi.gov]; Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]; Alex Hinson[alex\_hinson@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Newell, Russell  
**Sent:** 2017-10-23T08:23:11-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Energy  
**Received:** 2017-10-23T08:23:18-04:00

sounds good

Russell Newell  
Deputy Director of Communications  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 208-6232  
@Interior

On Mon, Oct 23, 2017 at 8:09 AM, Laura Rigas <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Let's discuss at our staff meeting this morning.

Laura Keehner Rigas  
Communications Director  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 897-7022 cell  
@Interior

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Howarth, Robert" <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Date:** October 23, 2017 at 8:06:30 AM EDT  
**To:** Laura Rigas <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Subject:** Energy

--

Robert Howarth  
Deputy Director for Correspondence and FOIA Management  
Office of the Executive Secretariat and Regulatory Affairs  
Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20240  
202-208-3181  
202-208-4451 (direct)  
202-549-8961 (cell)

**To:** Adam Federman (b) (6)  
**Cc:** Interior Press[Interior\_Press@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Heather Swift  
**Sent:** 2017-09-22T13:44:11-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Executive Resources Board  
**Received:** 2017-09-22T13:44:56-04:00

You may submit a FOIA request by following standard procedures outlined here: <https://www.doi.gov/foia/>

Heather Swift  
Press Secretary  
Department of the Interior

On Sep 13, 2017, at 4:11 PM, Adam Federman <(b) (6)> wrote:

To Whom It May Concern:

I'm a journalist based in Vermont and a reporting fellow at the Nation Institute working on a story that touches on the Department's Executive Resources Board.

I would like to know who the members of the ERB are at the present moment. If you could respond to this query by the end of day Friday that would be much appreciated. If this information is not publicly available I would like an explanation of why that is.

My phone number is: (b) (6)

Many thanks.

Adam Federman

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(b) (6)  
Reporting Fellow, Investigative Fund at the Nation Institute  
Author of [Fasting and Feasting: The Life of Visionary Food Writer Patience Gray](#)

**To:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Howarth, Robert  
**Sent:** 2017-12-20T13:04:21-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Final SO Critical Minerals?  
**Received:** 2017-12-20T13:05:05-05:00

2

On Wed, Dec 20, 2017 at 12:57 PM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Nice. Can you tell me how many pages it is? Advance needs to know.

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Wed, Dec 20, 2017 at 12:57 PM, Howarth, Robert <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

yes, shortly...waiting for the President on his EO so I can input the EO number.

Rob

On Wed, Dec 20, 2017 at 12:55 PM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Can I please have the final SO on critical minerals?

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

--

Robert Howarth  
Deputy Director for Correspondence and FOIA Management  
Office of the Executive Secretariat and Regulatory Affairs  
Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20240  
202-208-3181  
202-208-4451 (direct)  
202-549-8961 (cell)

--

Robert Howarth  
Deputy Director for Correspondence and FOIA Management  
Office of the Executive Secretariat and Regulatory Affairs  
Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20240  
202-208-3181  
202-208-4451 (direct)  
202-549-8961 (cell)



**To:** Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Michael Coleman  
**Sent:** 2017-12-18T14:43:16-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: foia  
**Received:** 2017-12-18T14:43:57-05:00

got it thanks -- see you soon

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**From:** "Heather Swift" <heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov>  
**To:** "Michael Coleman" <mcoleman@abqjournal.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, December 18, 2017 2:39:24 PM  
**Subject:** foia

<https://www.doi.gov/foia/os/os-foia-library-travel-records>

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

**To:** Angelico, Eileen[eileen.angelico@bsee.gov]  
**Cc:** Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]; Julian, Gregory[gregory.julian@bsee.gov]; Frank Quimby[frank\_quimby@ios.doi.gov]; Shandria Dixon[shandria\_dixon@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Laura Rigas  
**Sent:** 2017-10-04T09:33:09-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: FOIA  
**Received:** 2017-10-04T09:33:23-04:00

Perfect. Adding Shandria to help schedule. Thx!

Laura Keehner Rigas  
Communications Director  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 897-7022 cell  
@Interior

On Oct 4, 2017, at 9:10 AM, Angelico, Eileen <[eileen.angelico@bsee.gov](mailto:eileen.angelico@bsee.gov)> wrote:

Laura,  
Sorry to take so long to get back with you. I hope Thursday afternoon is still available!

How about 2 pm? I can come up to your office if that time works. I would also like to talk to you about an environmental/NGO roundtable that we would like Scott to do in late November, that should take no more than 10 minutes.

Thanks,

*Eileen*

Eileen P. Angelico, APR  
Chief, Office of Public Affairs  
Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement  
(202) 208-7746 office  
(504) 654-7840 mobile

On Mon, Oct 2, 2017 at 5:01 PM, Laura Rigas <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

I'm free anytime after 12n. Thx!

Laura Keehner Rigas  
Communications Director  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 897-7022 cell  
@Interior

On Oct 2, 2017, at 4:51 PM, Angelico, Eileen <[eileen.angelico@bsee.gov](mailto:eileen.angelico@bsee.gov)> wrote:

I think it can wait until Thursday. I think we do need to discuss together so everyone's aware. Please let me know your availability either a.m. or p.m. Thursday. I am available other than 9:15-10:15am.  
Thanks,

*Eileen*

On Mon, Oct 2, 2017 at 4:16 PM, Laura Rigas <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

I'm traveling with the boss until Thurs. Any chance we could chat then? Thx!

Laura Keehner Rigas  
Communications Director  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 897-7022 cell  
@Interior

On Oct 2, 2017, at 4:10 PM, Heather Swift <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Looping in Laura! I'm on the road this week.

Heather Swift  
Press Secretary  
Department of the Interior

On Oct 2, 2017, at 3:36 PM, Julian, Gregory <[gregory.julian@bsee.gov](mailto:gregory.julian@bsee.gov)> wrote:

Hi Heather,  
We've received several FOIA queries like the one below regarding the regulatory review and Eileen would like to talk strategy with you on Wednesday if possible.

The other two are from NY Times and Wall Street Journal.

Best,  
Greg

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Angelico, Eileen** <[eileen.angelico@bsee.gov](mailto:eileen.angelico@bsee.gov)>

Date: Mon, Oct 2, 2017 at 12:03 PM

Subject: Fwd: FOIA

To: Gregory Julian <[gregory.julian@bsee.gov](mailto:gregory.julian@bsee.gov)>

FYI

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **FOIA, BSEE** <[bseefoia@bsee.gov](mailto:bseefoia@bsee.gov)>

Date: Thu, Sep 28, 2017 at 7:18 AM

Subject: Fwd: FOIA

To: Thomas Lillie <[thomas.lillie@bsee.gov](mailto:thomas.lillie@bsee.gov)>, Eileen Angelico  
<[eileen.angelico@bsee.gov](mailto:eileen.angelico@bsee.gov)>

FYI -- See news media request below

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Zack Kopplin** <[ZackK@whistleblower.org](mailto:ZackK@whistleblower.org)>

Date: Mon, Sep 25, 2017 at 6:50 PM

Subject: FOIA

To: "[BSEEOFIA@bsee.gov](mailto:BSEEOFIA@bsee.gov)" <[BSEEOFIA@bsee.gov](mailto:BSEEOFIA@bsee.gov)>

## **Government Accountability Project**

Zack Kopplin, GAP Investigator

(b) (6)

[New Orleans, Louisiana 70115](#)

225-715-5946

## **FOIA Request**

Dear Freedom of Information Officer:

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552, I am requesting  
a search for any and all emails between Scott

Angelle and Secretary Zinke since 1/20/17.

Thank you.

If any of the material covered by this request has been destroyed or removed, please provide all surrounding documentation including, but not limited to, a description of the action taken regarding the materials and justification for those actions taken.

For any documents or portions you deny due to a specific FOIA exemption, please provide a detailed justification of your grounds for claiming such exemption, explaining why the exemption is relevant to the document or portion of the document withheld.

I anticipate that any responsive documents will be unclassified. if any of the responsive documents contain classified information, please segregate all unclassified material within the classified documents and provide all unclassified information.

I consent to the deletion of any material that would violate an individual's rights under the Privacy Act. We will work with your office to prioritize responsive data for this request, further refine the request if you find any terms too imprecise, conduct searches for unclassified responsive records, or engage in any other reasonable activities that would lessen the agency's burden and costs.

I request that all fees incurred in connection with the attached request be waived, because "disclosure of the information is in the public interest and is not primarily in the commercial interest of the requester." 5 U.S.C. §552 (a)(4)(A)(iii).

I am a member of the media. I have published articles in a wide variety of news outlets including *The Atlantic*, *Slate Magazine*, *Politico Magazine*, *Science Magazine*, the *Daily Beast*, *Salon*, *ThinkProgress* and *The Guardian*. I have appeared on a wide variety of television, radio and digital news programs including HBO, MSNBC, NPR and PBS and I have helped create news segments for NowThis News.

My articles have been widely read, with many reaching hundreds of thousands of readers. Whatever I write has a reasonable expectation of publication. My editorial and writing skills are well established.

On top of this, the organization I work for, the Government Accountability Project, runs a news blog, where newsworthy information can be published.

My requests are made as part of my news gathering process.

While my research is not limited to this, a great deal of it, including this, focuses on the activities and attitudes of the government itself and disseminating it to the public.

It is unnecessary for me to demonstrate the relevance of this particular subject in advance. Additionally, despite my past record, case law states that "proof of the ability to disseminate the released information to a broad cross-section of the public is not required." *Judicial Watch, Inc. v. Dep't of Justice*, 365 F.3d 1108, 1126 (D.C. Cir. 2004); see *Carney v. U.S. Dep't of Justice*, 19 F.3d 807, 814-15 (2d Cir. 1994). Further, courts have held that "qualified because it also had "firm" plans to "publish a number of . . . 'document sets'" concerning United States foreign and national security policy." Under this criteria, as well, I qualify as a member of

the news media. Additionally, courts have held that the news media status "focuses on the nature of the requester, not its request. The provision requires that the request be "made by" a representative of the news media. Id. § 552(a)(4)(A)(ii)(II). A newspaper reporter, for example, is a representative of the news media regardless of how much interest there is in the story for which he or she is requesting information." As such, the details of the request itself are moot for the purposes of determining the appropriate fee category.

The disclosure is "likely to contribute" to an understanding of government operations or activities.

While I do not need to explain the specifics of why I make each individual request, these documents will help me to better inform the public about potential waste, fraud or abuse, gross negligence or abuse of authority, or threats to public health and safety or the environment. All of this will serve the American people and strengthen our country.

### **The Government Accountability Project's Public Interest Status and History**

GAP is a non-profit, non-partisan, public interest organization chartered under IRS Code §501 (C)(3) as a non-profit, educational and charitable organization. We seek to serve the public through achieving governmental accountability by protecting and encouraging federal and corporate employees who observe or are victimized by wrongdoing, gross waste of public funds, threats to public health and safety, environmental contamination, corruption, abuse of the public trust and other abuses of power.

GAP accomplishes these goals primarily by conducting advocacy campaigns before Congress, through the media, and for

the general public and by providing legal representation to whistleblowers to combat the retaliation they have suffered in exercising their right of occupational free speech. Our twin aims are to promote corporate and government accountability and to expose, investigate, and correct substantive problems that formed the basis of protected whistleblowing disclosures. GAP's role is well-recognized by the courts and, as an organization, has informational standing under the First Amendment protecting its receipt of disclosed information. *Taylor v. RTC*, 56 F.3d 1437 (D.C. 1995); *United States v. Garde*, 573 F. Supp. 604 (D.D.C. 1987); ~ Generally *Virginia Pharmacy Bd. v. Virginia Consumer Council*, 425 U.S. 748, 756-57 (1976).

GAP has a 20-year history of working in the public interest. GAP does not take individual cases based on the client's ability to pay, how much money GAP believes it can recover in legal fees through litigation or any other commercial interest.

GAP takes cases of legitimately harassed whistleblowers, often pro-bono (without charge), that further public policy or legislative changes that make the law stronger for workers who witness and choose to tell the truth about corporate and taxpayer-financed wrongdoing and to pursue exposure and resolution of the wrongdoing.

GAP has, among other things, pushed for enactment of several whistleblower protection statutes, exposed unhealthy food at supermarket chains, pushed for independent reviews of the safety of the Alaska pipeline, exposed the threat of explosion in waste tanks at the Hanford nuclear site, and pushed for policy reform within numerous executive agencies. All this activity is done primarily with the interest of the public in mind.

**Non-commercial use of the Requested Information**



Disclosure of this information by GAP is in no way connected with any commercial interest since GAP is a non-profit, tax-exempt organization under § 501 (c)(3) of the IRS Code. The information we are seeking is crucial to advance public knowledge and will not be put to any commercial use.

### **Reducing Request Workload**

If you disallow my fee-waiver request, I pledge to pay the price of the FOIA request up to \$25. Alert me if it exceeds this price.

Please begin working on the request while processing the request for a fee waiver.

Please send me documents electronically.

Please be reminded that under the Freedom of Information Act, we are entitled to a response to this request within twenty working days. Should this request be denied for any reason, we ask that a detailed explanation be provided along with the name of the person to whom administrative appeals should be addressed.

If my request is taking a large amount of time, please process it in tranches so I may begin processing the documents while waiting for the request to be filled.

Thank you in advance for your assistance and cooperation,

Zack Kopplin, Investigator and Outreach Associate

Government Accountability Project

225-715-5946

--

**Greg Julian**

Press Secretary

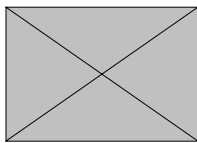
Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement

O: 202-208-6184

M: 202-412-8375

[Gregory.Julian@bsee.gov](mailto:Gregory.Julian@bsee.gov)

<http://www.bsee.gov/> | <https://www.linkedin.com/company/bureau-of-safety-and-environmental-enforcement>  
| <https://twitter.com/BSEEGov> | <https://www.facebook.com/BSEEGov/>



**To:** DuBray, Daniel[[ddubray@usbr.gov](mailto:ddubray@usbr.gov)]  
**Cc:** Heather Swift[[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)]  
**From:** Laura Rigas  
**Sent:** 2017-07-25T14:49:20-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: FOIA BOR-2017-00299 from: David Fahrenthold  
**Received:** 2017-07-25T14:49:31-04:00

Thx.

Laura Keehner Rigas  
Communications Director  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 897-7022 cell  
@Interior

On Jul 25, 2017, at 11:47 AM, DuBray, Daniel <[ddubray@usbr.gov](mailto:ddubray@usbr.gov)> wrote:

FYI. We'll have nothing responsive...but wanted you both to be aware of the request and the requestor.  
d

Dan DuBray  
Chief, Public Affairs  
Commissioner's Office  
Bureau of Reclamation  
1849 C Street, NW MS-7069  
Washington, DC 20240  
Direct: (202) 513-0574  
Cell: (571) 277-1197  
[ddubray@usbr.gov](mailto:ddubray@usbr.gov)  
Twitter: @DuBray

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Lucero, Jeffrey <[jlucero@usbr.gov](mailto:jlucero@usbr.gov)>  
**Date:** Tue, Jul 25, 2017 at 12:27 PM  
**Subject:** Fwd: FOIA BOR-2017-00299 from: David Fahrenthold  
**To:** LaWanda Oates <[loates@usbr.gov](mailto:loates@usbr.gov)>, Arnold Johnson <[AJOHNSON@usbr.gov](mailto:AJOHNSON@usbr.gov)>, "ASGAdmAsstDetail, BOR WRO" <[asgadmasstdetail@usbr.gov](mailto:asgadmasstdetail@usbr.gov)>, Patricia Aaron <[paaron@usbr.gov](mailto:paaron@usbr.gov)>, "DuBray, Daniel" <[ddubray@usbr.gov](mailto:ddubray@usbr.gov)>, David Palumbo <[dpalumbo@usbr.gov](mailto:dpalumbo@usbr.gov)>, Grayford Payne <[gfpayne@usbr.gov](mailto:gfpayne@usbr.gov)>, "Hess, James" <[jhess@usbr.gov](mailto:jhess@usbr.gov)>, Alan Mikkelsen <[amikkelsen@usbr.gov](mailto:amikkelsen@usbr.gov)>, Lauren Meredith <[lmeredith@usbr.gov](mailto:lmeredith@usbr.gov)>, Robert Wolf <[rwolf@usbr.gov](mailto:rwolf@usbr.gov)>, Marie HughesBrown <[mhughesbrown@usbr.gov](mailto:mhughesbrown@usbr.gov)>, "Gessel, Randy" <[rgessel@usbr.gov](mailto:rgessel@usbr.gov)>, Sherry Love <[slove@usbr.gov](mailto:slove@usbr.gov)>, Debra Bloom <[dbloom@usbr.gov](mailto:dbloom@usbr.gov)>, "Duchesne, Matthew" <[mduchesne@usbr.gov](mailto:mduchesne@usbr.gov)>, Otelia Quarles <[oquarles@usbr.gov](mailto:oquarles@usbr.gov)>, "Coleman, Jeanette" <[jcoleman@usbr.gov](mailto:jcoleman@usbr.gov)>, "Rogers, Evann" <[erogers@usbr.gov](mailto:erogers@usbr.gov)>, "Lawler, Deborah" <[dlawler@usbr.gov](mailto:dlawler@usbr.gov)>,

Mathew Maucieri <[mmaucieri@usbr.gov](mailto:mmaucieri@usbr.gov)>, Christina Kalavritinos  
<[ckalavritinos@usbr.gov](mailto:ckalavritinos@usbr.gov)>

Good Afternoon

Please see the incoming FOIA request from Mr. David Fahrenthold of the Washington Post.

The request description: "any records detailing arrangements by the BOR or any of its subordinate offices to hold conferences, retreats, trainings, or other gatherings of employees at properties owned by or managed by the Trump Organization. My request covers gatherings that have already occurred, and gatherings planned in the future."

I would appreciate any relevant records by **COB Aug 15, 2017**.

If you do not have any records a negative response is requested.

Should you have questions, please contact me at anytime.

thank you  
Jeff

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Freedom of Information Act Mailbox, BOR** <[borfoia@usbr.gov](mailto:borfoia@usbr.gov)>

Date: Tue, Jul 25, 2017 at 9:27 AM

Subject: Fwd: FOIA BOR-2017-00299 from: David Fahrenthold

To: Aaron Alton <[aalton@usbr.gov](mailto:aalton@usbr.gov)>, Alisha Daniel <[adaniel@usbr.gov](mailto:adaniel@usbr.gov)>, BOR PNR  
PNFOIA <[gen-pnr-pnfoia@usbr.gov](mailto:gen-pnr-pnfoia@usbr.gov)>, Christopher Miller <[csmiller@usbr.gov](mailto:csmiller@usbr.gov)>, Curtis Pierce <[cpierce@usbr.gov](mailto:cpierce@usbr.gov)>, Donna Hirning <[dhirning@usbr.gov](mailto:dhirning@usbr.gov)>, Janet Belcher <[jbelcher@usbr.gov](mailto:jbelcher@usbr.gov)>, Jeffrey Lucero <[jlucero@usbr.gov](mailto:jlucero@usbr.gov)>, Kevin Reynolds <[kreynolds@usbr.gov](mailto:kreynolds@usbr.gov)>, Melinda Jones <[majones@usbr.gov](mailto:majones@usbr.gov)>, Melissa Chastain <[mchastain@usbr.gov](mailto:mchastain@usbr.gov)>, Michelle Escobar <[mescobar@usbr.gov](mailto:mescobar@usbr.gov)>, Stacy Wade <[slwade@usbr.gov](mailto:slwade@usbr.gov)>, Yadyra Esparza <[yesparza@usbr.gov](mailto:yesparza@usbr.gov)>

Cc: Deborah Suehr <[DSUEHR@usbr.gov](mailto:DSUEHR@usbr.gov)>

REF: BOR-2017-00299

All,

Please see below FOIA requesting "any records detailing arrangements by the BOR or any of its subordinate offices to hold conferences, retreats, trainings, or other gatherings of employees at properties owned by or managed by the Trump Organization. My request covers gatherings that have already occurred, and gatherings planned in the future."

We will be collecting and consolidating the response here in Denver. Please let us know if you have any responsive records, or if you have none, by 8/17/17. If you don't think you can gather your responses in that time-frame please let me know.

Thanks,

Jesse

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **U.S. Department of the Interior** <[doi-webforms@ios.doi.gov](mailto:doi-webforms@ios.doi.gov)>

Date: Mon, Jul 24, 2017 at 3:23 PM

Subject: FOIA from: David Fahrenthold

To: [bor\\_foia@usbr.gov](mailto:bor_foia@usbr.gov)

Submitted on Monday, July 24, 2017 - 5:23pm

Submitted by anonymous user: [10.156.8.158]

Submitted values are:

Your Name: David Fahrenthold

Street Address: 1301 K Street NW

City: Washington

State or Country: DC

Zip or Postal Code: 20071

Address Type: Business

Daytime Phone Number: 202-334-7550

Fax Number:

E-mail Address: [fahrenthold@washpost.com](mailto:fahrenthold@washpost.com)

Confirm E-mail Address : [fahrenthold@washpost.com](mailto:fahrenthold@washpost.com)

Your Organization: The Washington Post

Are you filing the request on behalf of another party? No

If so, who are you filing the request on behalf of?

Contact Information Certification: I certify that the above statement(s) concerning who I am filing the request on behalf of are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief. If I want to receive greater access to records about a person I represent, I will submit proof that the person consents to the release of the records to me, as discussed in 43 C.F.R. § 2.9.

Bureau/Office: Bureau of Reclamation (BOR)

Relevant park, refuge, site or other location:

Request Description: I request any records detailing arrangements by the BOR or any of its subordinate offices to hold conferences, retreats, trainings, or other gatherings of employees at properties owned by or managed by the Trump Organization. My request covers gatherings that have already occurred, and gatherings planned in the future.

Requester's Communication Preferences: Electronic communication via email

Document Disclosure Preferences: Electronic copies via email

Select the applicable reason why you are requesting expedited processing: There is an urgency to inform the public concerning actual or alleged Federal government activity and the request is made by a person primarily engaged in disseminating information.

Justification for Expedited Processing: I am a member of the media and this request concerns a matter of high public interest, which is the use of government funds to support a private business owned by the Trump Organization.

Expedited Processing Certification: I certify that the above statement(s) concerning expedited processing are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Please select the appropriate statement: I am requesting a waiver or reduction of fees.

I agree to pay fees up to this particular amount: \$500

To assist in determining my requester category to assess fees, you should know that I am: a representative of the news media and this request is made as part of a news gathering effort and not for commercial use

Affiliated Organization: The Washington Post

Check the boxes to the right to confirm that you meet the Department's fee waiver criteria: Disclosure of the information is in the public interest because it is likely to contribute significantly to public understanding of the operations or activities of the Government.

Please explain why your request for a waiver of fees or a reduction in fees is justified.: I am a member of the media and this request concerns a matter of high public interest, which is the use of government funds to support a private business owned by the Trump Organization.

The results of this submission may be viewed at:

<https://www.doi.gov/node/11498/submission/303481>

--

**Jeffrey M. Lucero**

**Deputy Chief of Staff  
Commissioner's Office  
Bureau Of Reclamation  
1849 C Street NW (91-10000)  
MS-7069-MIB, RM 7543  
Washington DC 20240**

**(202) 513-0327 (W)**

**(406) 698-9939 (M)**

**To:** Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Fairman, Leah  
**Sent:** 2017-08-16T08:41:58-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: FOIA Glacier WVP - Invitation to collaborate  
**Received:** 2017-08-16T08:42:44-04:00

Good morning,

Appreciate all the responses, I know we've been flooding you! Going forward, it would be a big help if you can include the FOIA number in the label for us so we can easily pair it with the correct request.

to that end, I'd like to check that this is correct:

This label corresponds to: OS-2017-00929

"FOIA Glacier Zuckerberg" corresponds to OS-2017-00932

"BENM Call" corresponds to OS-2017-00963

On Tue, Aug 15, 2017 at 5:29 PM, Heather Swift (via Google Drive) <[drive-shares-noreply@google.com](mailto:drive-shares-noreply@google.com)> wrote:

heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov has invited you to **contribute to** the following shared folder:

## FOIA Glacier WVP

Open

Google Drive: Have all your files within reach from any device.

Google Inc. 1600 Amphitheatre Parkway, Mountain View, CA 94043, USA

--

Leah Fairman  
Department of the Interior  
Office of the Secretary, FOIA Office  
1849 C Street, NW, MS-7328  
Washington, D.C. 20240  
[Leah\\_Fairman@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Leah_Fairman@ios.doi.gov)  
(202) 513-0765 - phone  
(202) 565-1076 - direct line  
(202) 219-2374 - fax

**To:** Fairman, Leah[leah\_fairman@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Swift, Heather  
**Sent:** 2017-08-23T08:14:19-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: FOIA June 12 BENM Call - Invitation to collaborate  
**Received:** 2017-08-23T08:15:01-04:00

IT WAS SSHARED IN A SEPARATE EMAIL.

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Wed, Aug 23, 2017 at 8:12 AM, Fairman, Leah <[leah\\_fairman@ios.doi.gov](mailto:leah_fairman@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Good morning,  
Wanted to follow up on this. Since the linked folder is empty, can you try doing this one again? Not sure why it came through empty.

Thanks!

Leah

On Tue, Aug 15, 2017 at 3:47 PM, Heather Swift (via Google Drive) <[drive-shares-noreply@google.com](mailto:drive-shares-noreply@google.com)> wrote:

Heather Swift has invited you to **contribute to** the following shared folder:

[FOIA June 12 BENM Call](#)

Open

Google Drive: Have all your files within reach from any device.

Google Inc. 1600 Amphitheatre Parkway, Mountain View, CA 94043, USA

--

Leah Fairman  
Department of the Interior  
Office of the Secretary, FOIA Office  
1849 C Street, NW, MS-7328  
Washington, D.C. 20240  
[Leah\\_Fairman@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Leah_Fairman@ios.doi.gov)



(202) 513-0765 - phone  
(202) 565-1076 - direct line  
(202) 219-2374 - fax

**To:** Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Fairman, Leah  
**Sent:** 2017-08-16T08:53:06-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: FOIA June 12 BENM Call - Invitation to collaborate  
**Received:** 2017-08-16T08:53:52-04:00

Good morning,  
There was nothing in this file. Can you please resend?

Thanks

On Tue, Aug 15, 2017 at 3:47 PM, Heather Swift (via Google Drive) <[drive-shares-noreply@google.com](mailto:drive-shares-noreply@google.com)> wrote:

Heather Swift has invited you to **contribute to** the following shared folder:

## FOIA June 12 BENM Call

Open

Google Drive: Have all your files within reach from any device.

Google Inc. 1600 Amphitheatre Parkway, Mountain View, CA 94043, USA

--

Leah Fairman  
Department of the Interior  
Office of the Secretary, FOIA Office  
1849 C Street, NW, MS-7328  
Washington, D.C. 20240  
[Leah\\_Fairman@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Leah_Fairman@ios.doi.gov)  
(202) 513-0765 - phone  
(202) 565-1076 - direct line  
(202) 219-2374 - fax

**To:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** leah\_fairman@ios.doi.gov  
**Sent:** 2017-08-15T15:42:07-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: FOIA June 12 BENM Call - Invitation to collaborate  
**Received:** 2017-08-15T15:42:44-04:00

thanks!

On Tue, Aug 15, 2017 at 3:41 PM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

**FOIA Request Control Number:  
OS-2017-00963**

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Tue, Aug 15, 2017 at 8:44 AM, OS, OS FOIA <[osfoia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Good morning,  
Can you please let us know which OS number this is responsive to? We try to use the tracking number to insure all records go to the correct file. Appreciate your help!

Leah

On Mon, Aug 14, 2017 at 7:57 PM, Heather Swift (via Google Drive) <[drive-shares-noreply@google.com](mailto:drive-shares-noreply@google.com)> wrote:

heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov has invited you to **contribute to** the following shared folder:

**FOIA June 12 BENM Call**

[Open](#)

Google Drive: Have all your files within reach from any device.

Google Inc. 1600 Amphitheatre Parkway, Mountain View, CA 94043, USA

--

Department of the Interior  
Office of the Secretary, FOIA Office  
1849 C Street, NW, MS-7328  
Washington, D.C. 20240

[os\\_foia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:os_foia@ios.doi.gov)  
(202) 513-0765 - phone  
(202) 219-2374 - fax

--

Department of the Interior  
Office of the Secretary, FOIA Office  
1849 C Street, NW, MS-7328  
Washington, D.C. 20240  
[os\\_foia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:os_foia@ios.doi.gov)  
(202) 513-0765 - phone  
(202) 219-2374 - fax

**To:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Kyle Jahner  
**Sent:** 2017-11-03T16:39:49-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: FOIA Lawsuit  
**Received:** 2017-11-03T16:40:29-04:00

I certainly understand.  
Litigation aside:

Are there any updates or confirmations of reported plans to shrink the four national monuments and make changes to others?

Or to step back, does the DOI confirm that this is a genuine DOI document? <https://www.documentcloud.org/documents/4052225-Interior-Secretary-Ryan-Zinke-s-Report-to-the.html> Does it deny that it is a legitimate document?

What is the justification of the DOI for not releasing Secretary Zinke's August recommendations report, given the administration's claim that public outreach is important and recognition in the above document that comments overwhelmingly supported not changing designations on the monuments?

Any insight would be much appreciated.

Kyle Jahner  
Reporter

Legal News & Data  
1150 18th St. NW  
Suite 600  
Washington, D.C. 20036  
Cell: (b) (6)

On Fri, Nov 3, 2017 at 1:05 PM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Please contact DOJ on all matters regarding litigation.

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Fri, Nov 3, 2017 at 1:03 PM, Kyle Jahner <[kyle.jahner@law360.com](mailto:kyle.jahner@law360.com)> wrote:

I'm a reporter writing about the lawsuit against DOI over alleged failures to respond to a number of FOIA requests.  
Please let me know if the government has any comment on the suit. I'd also obviously be

interested in any developments to consider shrinking or de-designating any national parks per Executive Order 13792, or any other comments on the related issues.

Thanks.

Kyle Jahner  
Reporter

Legal News & Data  
[1150 18th St. NW](#)  
[Suite 600](#)  
Washington, D.C. 20036  
Cell: (b) (6)

**To:** Magallanes, Downey[downey\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Laura Rigas  
**Sent:** 2017-11-30T17:15:37-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: FOIA Lawsuit - No Foreseeable Harm Perceived by the Lawyers  
**Received:** 2017-11-30T17:16:17-05:00

Ok. Will do.

Laura Keehner Rigas  
Communications Director  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 897-7022 cell  
@Interior

On Nov 30, 2017, at 5:10 PM, Magallanes, Downey <[downey\\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov](mailto:downey_magallanes@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

FYI. Come talk to me if you have questions.

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Magallanes, Downey <[downey\\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov](mailto:downey_magallanes@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Date:** Thu, Nov 30, 2017 at 5:09 PM  
**Subject:** Re: FOIA Lawsuit - No Foreseeable Harm Perceived by the Lawyers  
**To:** "Keable, Edward" <[edward.keable@sol.doi.gov](mailto:edward.keable@sol.doi.gov)>  
**Cc:** "Lurie, Maria" <[maria.lurie@sol.doi.gov](mailto:maria.lurie@sol.doi.gov)>, Richard Myers  
<[Richard.Myers@sol.doi.gov](mailto:Richard.Myers@sol.doi.gov)>

Ok. This is ok to go

On Thu, Nov 30, 2017 at 4:58 PM, Keable, Edward <[edward.keable@sol.doi.gov](mailto:edward.keable@sol.doi.gov)> wrote:

Downey,

Yes, Rich is coordinating this with the OSC production. Thanks.

Ed

On Thu, Nov 30, 2017 at 1:02 PM, Downey Magallanes  
<[downey\\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov](mailto:downey_magallanes@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Is there coordination with OSC documentation collection request on the travel investigation?

On Nov 28, 2017, at 3:43 PM, Lurie, Maria <[maria.lurie@sol.doi.gov](mailto:maria.lurie@sol.doi.gov)> wrote:

Hello, Downey.

As discussed, here is the language that is responsive to a FOIA request that is currently in litigation. I've discussed this language with Deputy Solicitor Ed Keable, and he and I are of the opinion that there would not be any foreseeable harm if this language were to be released. It's (b) (5)

[REDACTED]

As you may know, under the FOIA Improvement Act of 2016, an agency may only withhold information if it reasonably foresees that disclosure would harm an interest protected by an exemption described in 552(b) or the disclosure is otherwise prohibited by law. See Pub. L. No. 114-185 (Jun. 30, 2016).

Finally, under the production schedule established by the court, the Department will need to make a cut on whether to assert attorney-client privilege with respect the message sent to the Secretary no later than this Friday, December 1. If you would like to discuss this matter by telephone, my direct dial is 202.208.7272.

Regards,

**Maria Lurie**

Attorney-Advisor  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
Office of the Solicitor  
Division of General Law



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--

Edward T. Keable  
Deputy Solicitor-General Law  
Office of the Solicitor  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
Phone: 202-208-4423  
Fax: 202-208-5584  
[edward.keable@sol.doi.gov](mailto:edward.keable@sol.doi.gov)

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--

Downey Magallanes  
Deputy Chief of Staff for Policy  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
[downey\\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov](mailto:downey_magallanes@ios.doi.gov)  
202-706-9199

--

Downey Magallanes  
Deputy Chief of Staff for Policy  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
[downey\\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov](mailto:downey_magallanes@ios.doi.gov)  
202-706-9199

**To:** Julka, Clarice[clarice\_julka@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Robert Howarth[robert\_howarth@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Swift, Heather  
**Sent:** 2017-12-15T08:39:43-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: FOIA Numbers  
**Received:** 2017-12-15T08:40:29-05:00

Thank you, Clarice.

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Fri, Dec 15, 2017 at 7:36 AM, Julka, Clarice <[clarice\\_julka@ios.doi.gov](mailto:clarice_julka@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

I just wanted to make sure you had the correct incoming number of FOIA requests for Fiscal year 2017 as compared to Fiscal year 2016 for both the entire Department and for OS FOIA. In an article today, the Washington Post today cited incorrect numbers. Please call me with any questions.

Received FY17	Received FY16
DOI: 8014	6438
OS: 1226	509

Thanks,

Clarice

Clarice Julka  
Department of the Interior  
Office of the Secretary, FOIA Office  
[1849 C Street, NW](#), MS-7328  
Washington, D.C. 20240  
[Clarice\\_Julka@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Clarice_Julka@ios.doi.gov)  
(202) 513-0765 - phone  
(202) 208-6045 - direct line  
(202) 219-2374 - fax

**To:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Grandoni, Dino[Dino.Grandoni@washpost.com]; Van Dongen, Rachel[Rachel.VanDongen@washpost.com]  
**From:** Eilperin, Juliet  
**Sent:** 2017-12-15T09:04:40-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** RE: FOIA numbers correction  
**Received:** 2017-12-15T09:04:52-05:00

Thanks, and I have updated the story online.

**From:** Swift, Heather [mailto:heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**Sent:** Friday, December 15, 2017 9:00 AM  
**To:** Eilperin, Juliet <Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com>  
**Cc:** Grandoni, Dino <Dino.Grandoni@washpost.com>; Van Dongen, Rachel <Rachel.VanDongen@washpost.com>  
**Subject:** Re: FOIA numbers correction

I have the request in, will send numbers when I have them.

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Fri, Dec 15, 2017 at 8:51 AM, Eilperin, Juliet <[Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com](mailto:Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com)> wrote:  
I'm copying my co-author and our editor on this piece. Rachel, can you correct this in the piece?

And Heather, can you get back to us on how many lawsuits DOI is facing on FOIA, Department-wide?  
Thanks.

On Dec 15, 2017, at 8:47 AM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

WP team - very sorry but I was just given a clarification to the FOIA numbers. The gent who gave me the numbers before gave me the numbers for just the office of the secretary. Below are the numbers for the entire department and broken out is the office of the secretary. My apologies if this causes you a headache.

Received FY17	Received FY16
DOI: 8014	6438
OS: 1226	509

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

**To:** Eilperin, Juliet[Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com]  
**Cc:** Grandoni, Dino[Dino.Grandoni@washpost.com]; Van Dongen, Rachel[Rachel.VanDongen@washpost.com]  
**From:** Swift, Heather  
**Sent:** 2017-12-15T08:59:32-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: FOIA numbers correction  
**Received:** 2017-12-15T09:00:19-05:00

I have the request in, will send numbers when I have them.

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Fri, Dec 15, 2017 at 8:51 AM, Eilperin, Juliet <[Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com](mailto:Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com)> wrote:

I'm copying my co-author and our editor on this piece. Rachel, can you correct this in the piece?

And Heather, can you get back to us on how many lawsuits DOI is facing on FOIA, Department-wide? Thanks.

On Dec 15, 2017, at 8:47 AM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

WP team - very sorry but I was just given a clarification to the FOIA numbers. The gent who gave me the numbers before gave me the numbers for just the office of the secretary. Below are the numbers for the entire department and broken out is the office of the secretary. My apologies if this causes you a headache.

Received FY17	Received FY16
DOI: 8014	6438
OS: 1226	509

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

**To:** Eilperin, Juliet[Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com]; Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Grandoni, Dino[Dino.Grandoni@washpost.com]  
**From:** Van Dongen, Rachel  
**Sent:** 2017-12-15T08:53:33-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: FOIA numbers correction  
**Received:** 2017-12-15T08:53:53-05:00

dino, pls update numbe rin story. and in e202. thanks Heather

---

**From:** Eilperin, Juliet  
**Sent:** Friday, December 15, 2017 8:51:21 AM  
**To:** Swift, Heather  
**Cc:** Grandoni, Dino; Van Dongen, Rachel  
**Subject:** Re: FOIA numbers correction

I'm copying my co-author and our editor on this piece. Rachel, can you correct this in he piece?

And Heather, can you get back to us on how many lawsuits DOI is facing on FOIA, Department-wide? Thanks.

On Dec 15, 2017, at 8:47 AM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

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Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

**To:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Grandoni, Dino[Dino.Grandoni@washpost.com]; Van Dongen, Rachel[Rachel.VanDongen@washpost.com]  
**From:** Eilperin, Juliet  
**Sent:** 2017-12-15T08:51:21-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: FOIA numbers correction  
**Received:** 2017-12-15T08:51:48-05:00

I'm copying my co-author and our editor on this piece. Rachel, can you correct this in the piece?

And Heather, can you get back to us on how many lawsuits DOI is facing on FOIA, Department-wide? Thanks.

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DOI: 8014	6438
OS: 1226	509

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

**To:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Howarth, Robert  
**Sent:** 2017-11-29T14:44:01-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: FOIA Package?  
**Received:** 2017-11-29T14:44:08-05:00

Hi Heather...please call Glenda (208-4006)directly...she has all the information on the particular grant.

Rob

On Wed, Nov 29, 2017 at 1:44 PM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Rob, Do you happen to have the FOIA package that was sent to this reporter?

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Dan Vergano <[dan.vergano@buzzfeed.com](mailto:dan.vergano@buzzfeed.com)>  
**Date:** Wed, Nov 29, 2017 at 1:40 PM  
**Subject:** BuzzFeed News: Status of August review of \$100K+ grants  
**To:** [Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov)

Ms. Swift

OSMRE communications indicated you were the contact for this query. I'm a science reporter at BuzzFeed News. I'm writing to enquire about the Aug. 18 request by Glenda Owens at OSMRE, asking the NAS to halt a study, S16AC20034, citing an agency review of grants of more than \$100,000 in funding.

Can DOI update us on the status of this review? Has it been started, completed, or is underway in any fashion? Is there anyone at the agency who can explain how the review is structured? We wonder a) how many review sessions have been held b) who is doing the reviewing and c) how many studies are included in this review.

We recently received a FOIA response on this topic from your agency, and are planning a story on the review request. It would be great to get any update on its status and the questions I mentioned (or whatever else you think noteworthy on the topic) before the end of the work week.

Thanks for any help,

Dan Vergano  
BuzzFeed News

[202 629 4563](tel:2026294563)

**Dan Vergano** | Science Desk (DC) | [202 629 4563](tel:2026294563)

**BuzzFeed News**

[1630 Connecticut Ave. 7th Floor, Washington DC 20009](https://www.buzzfeednews.com/)

Public PGP Key -- <http://tinyurl.com/glfk7xo>

Send secure tips -- [contact.buzzfeed.com](https://www.buzzfeed.com/contact)

--

Robert Howarth

Deputy Director for Correspondence and FOIA Management

Office of the Executive Secretariat and Regulatory Affairs

Department of the Interior

1849 C Street, NW

Washington, DC 20240

202-208-3181

202-208-4451 (direct)

202-549-8961 (cell)



**To:** Rigas, Laura[laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]; Russell Newell[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov]; Matthew Huggler[matthew\_huggler@fws.gov]  
**From:** Barbara Wainman  
**Sent:** 2018-01-03T18:52:56-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: FOIA Releases - border wall, Mexican wolf - FWS-2017-01127, FWS-2018-0200  
**Received:** 2018-01-03T18:53:06-05:00

I will get them.

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 3, 2018, at 6:51 PM, Rigas, Laura <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Do you have a copy?

*Laura Keehner Rigas*  
*Communications Director*  
*U.S. Department of the Interior*  
*(202) 897-7022 cell*  
*@Interior*

On Wed, Jan 3, 2018 at 6:50 PM, Barbara Wainman <[barbara\\_wainman@fws.gov](mailto:barbara_wainman@fws.gov)> wrote:

Not that I am aware of but I will do some more checking tomorrow. On another note we just learned of a study that is going to be published fairly soon in the Elsevier Journal Environmental Pollution. It deals with a worst-case-oil-spill scenario for polar bears. The author is an FWS employee. The region is not doing any proactive outreach but reporters may learn of it from the journal and the region could get calls they have talking points drafted. I wanted to give you a heads up.

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 3, 2018, at 5:38 PM, Rigas, Laura <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Thanks, Barbara. Anything particularly newsworthy in these docs?  
*Laura Keehner Rigas*  
*Communications Director*  
*U.S. Department of the Interior*  
*(202) 897-7022 cell*  
*@Interior*

On Wed, Jan 3, 2018 at 2:32 PM, Wainman, Barbara  
<[barbara\\_wainman@fws.gov](mailto:barbara_wainman@fws.gov)> wrote:

FYI below is a FOIA release that is going end of week for your awareness let me know if there is a different way you want to receive these trying to make sure we keep everyone in the loop

Barbara W. Wainman  
Assistant Director, External Affairs  
US Fish and Wildlife Service  
(202) 208-5256 (office)  
(571) 471-4159 (cell)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Hyde-Michaels, Carrie** <[carrie\\_hyde-michaels@fws.gov](mailto:carrie_hyde-michaels@fws.gov)>  
Date: Tue, Jan 2, 2018 at 9:14 AM  
Subject: FOIA Releases - border wall, Mexican wolf - FWS-2017-01127, FWS-2018-0200  
To: Barbara Wainman <[barbara\\_wainman@fws.gov](mailto:barbara_wainman@fws.gov)>, Matthew Huggler <[matthew\\_huggler@fws.gov](mailto:matthew_huggler@fws.gov)>, Gavin Shire <[gavin\\_shire@fws.gov](mailto:gavin_shire@fws.gov)>  
Cc: Kenneth Taylor <[kenneth\\_taylor@fws.gov](mailto:kenneth_taylor@fws.gov)>, Shelley Hartmann <[shelley\\_hartmann@fws.gov](mailto:shelley_hartmann@fws.gov)>

Region 2 plans to issue the attached FOIA responses by the end of this week to the Center for Biological Diversity (border wall) and Defenders of Wildlife (Mexican wolf.) Incoming request, outgoing response letter, and the records to be released are attached for each request.

Thanks,  
Carrie Hyde-Michaels  
FWS FOIA Officer  
Chief, Branch of FOIA, Records, Privacy  
US Fish & Wildlife Service Headquarters  
703-358-2291 (direct)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Krabbe, Lisa** <[lisa\\_krabbe@fws.gov](mailto:lisa_krabbe@fws.gov)>  
Date: Thu, Dec 28, 2017 at 5:19 PM  
Subject: High Interest requests: 18-00200 (Mex Wolf) and 17-01127 (Border wall)  
To: Carrie Hyde-Michaels <[carrie\\_hyde-michaels@fws.gov](mailto:carrie_hyde-michaels@fws.gov)>  
Cc: FW2 FOIA <[fw2foia@fws.gov](mailto:fw2foia@fws.gov)>

Hi Carrie -

Per the new guidance, I'm routing copies of two high-interest FOIAs for your review (enclosed in zip files below w/ the records to be released and incoming requests). These letters are currently being routed for signature, but a lot of folks are out for the holidays, so these probably won't be ready to send until later next week. We do not anticipate any substantive changes to the letters (but we can send you a copy of the signed final versions if you need those instead of the Word versions).

Please note the records for the Border FOIA (17-01127) were reviewed and approved for release by DOI back in September (a copy of that approval email is included in the zip file). We are just re-releasing them to a different enviro group as a partial. Due to size, the zip file only includes a sample of the records to be released).

Please let me know if you need anything else and/or when we have the green light to send.

Thanks -  
Lisa

.....  
Government Information Specialist (FOIA)  
USFWS-Ecological Services  
575 - 425-0033 desk

**To:** Matulka, Rebecca[rebecca\_matulka@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]; Laura Rigas[laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov]; Timothy Wight[timothy\_wight@ios.doi.gov]; Cynthia Sweeney[cynthia\_sweeney@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Rotimi Abimbola  
**Sent:** 2017-11-03T11:46:12-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: FOIA Request  
**Received:** 2017-11-03T11:46:20-04:00

Yes, and before you begin doing that let me check with Cindy Sweeney in the OS FOIA Office to see what is responsive to this request.

On Fri, Nov 3, 2017 at 11:23 AM, Matulka, Rebecca <[rebecca\\_matulka@ios.doi.gov](mailto:rebecca_matulka@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

We aren't blocking any accounts from @Interior (see attached screenshot). We have about 150-200 DMs so it'll take a while to do those. Can I get them to you next week?

On Fri, Nov 3, 2017 at 10:28 AM, Rotimi Abimbola <[rotimi\\_abimbola@ios.doi.gov](mailto:rotimi_abimbola@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Thanks Heather. I'll look to Rebecca for info on the @Interior account

On Fri, Nov 3, 2017 at 10:13 AM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Thanks! I responded over the summer for @SecretaryZinke there are no blocks. Attached are all the direct messages

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Fri, Nov 3, 2017 at 10:05 AM, Rotimi Abimbola <[rotimi\\_abimbola@ios.doi.gov](mailto:rotimi_abimbola@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

The request is attached. The pertinent sections are pasted below.

Pursuant to FOIA, 5 U.S.C. § 552 *et seq.*, the following Records are hereby requested through the date a response determination is sent to Requester:

- A list of all Twitter accounts blocked by @interior (the official Twitter account of the Department of the Interior). This information can easily be accessed, when logged in as @interior, by going to <https://twitter.com/settings/blocked> and printing out or saving the resulting list.
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- All electronic mailboxes, email accounts and addresses, instant message accounts and addresses, and aliases associated with each of the Department of Interior political appointees used to send or receive any electronic communication related to any matter of the Agency. Responsive records should include, but not be limited to: Employee name, employee job title, employee department, and all affiliated electronic mail boxes, email accounts and addresses, instant message accounts and addresses, and aliases. This covers both active and inactive mailboxes, accounts, addresses and aliases in existence on or after Jan. 20, 2017, whether publicly facing or not, whether provided by the government (e.g., [name@agency.gov](mailto:name@agency.gov)) or external, non-governmental (e.g., [name@aol.com](mailto:name@aol.com)). This also includes,

s://mail.google.com/mail/b/Alk\_JgZdJABM-fz6MFvECDkXiElr0QWt4pHdYySbZxxXRhJnnl/u/0?ui=2&ik=793d2a3fcf&jsver=VK6E92h7KU4.en.&view=pt&...

1/2017

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR Mail - ProPublica FOIA request

but is not limited to mailboxes, accounts, addresses and aliases listed in your Agency's online staff directory.

On Fri, Nov 3, 2017 at 10:02 AM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Thanks!

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
[@DOIPressSec](mailto:@DOIPressSec)  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Fri, Nov 3, 2017 at 9:30 AM, Oluwarotimi Abimbola  
<[oluwarotimi\\_abimbola@ios.doi.gov](mailto:oluwarotimi_abimbola@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Good morning Laura and Heather,  
Giving you a heads up that we are addressing a FOIA request that actually came through in the summer. It has some social media related questions. I'll forward over to you shortly you shortly and happy to chat about it with you and or Rebecca whenever you can.

Thanks,  
Rotimi

Sent from my iPhone

--

Rotimi Abimbola  
Chief of Staff  
OCIO, U.S. Department of the Interior  
Office phone: 202-208-2912  
[www.doi.gov/ocio](http://www.doi.gov/ocio)

--

Rotimi Abimbola  
Chief of Staff  
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--

Rebecca Matulka  
Deputy Director of Digital  
Interior Department  
202.208.5337

--

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Chief of Staff  
OCIO, U.S. Department of the Interior  
Office phone: 202-208-2912  
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**To:** Rotimi Abimbola[rotimi\_abimbola@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]; Laura Rigas[laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov]; Timothy Wight[timothy\_wight@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Matulka, Rebecca  
**Sent:** 2017-11-03T11:23:17-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: FOIA Request  
**Received:** 2017-11-03T11:23:25-04:00  
[Screen Shot 2017-11-03 at 11.21.07 AM.png](#)

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Department of the Interior  
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s://mail.google.com/mail/b/Aik\_JgZdJABM-ffz6MFvECDkXIElr0QWt4pHdYySbZxxXRhJnnl/u0?ui=2&ik=793d2a3fcf&jsver=VK6E92h7KU4.en.&view=pt&...

1/2017

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR Mail - ProPublica FOIA request

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Department of the Interior  
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Sent from my iPhone

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[www.doi.gov/ocio](http://www.doi.gov/ocio)

--

Rebecca Matulka  
Deputy Director of Digital  
Interior Department  
202.208.5337

**To:** Rotimi Abimbola[rotimi\_abimbola@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Laura Rigas[laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov]; Rebecca Matulka[rebecca\_matulka@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Swift, Heather  
**Sent:** 2017-11-03T10:13:08-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: FOIA Request  
**Received:** 2017-11-03T10:13:56-04:00  
[DirectMessageALL.JPG](#)  
[DirectMessage7.JPG](#)  
[DirectMessage6.JPG](#)  
[DirectMessage5.JPG](#)  
[DirectMessage4.JPG](#)  
[DirectMessage3.JPG](#)  
[DirectMessage2.JPG](#)  
[DirectMessage1.JPG](#)

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Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Fri, Nov 3, 2017 at 10:05 AM, Rotimi Abimbola <[rotimi\\_abimbola@ios.doi.gov](mailto:rotimi_abimbola@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

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[s://mail.google.com/mail/b/Alk\\_JgZdJABM-ftz6MFvECDkXIElr0QWt4pHdYySbZxxXRhJnnl/u/0?ui=2&ik=793d2a3fcf&jsver=VK6E92h7KU4.en.&view=pt&...](https://mail.google.com/mail/b/Alk_JgZdJABM-ftz6MFvECDkXIElr0QWt4pHdYySbZxxXRhJnnl/u/0?ui=2&ik=793d2a3fcf&jsver=VK6E92h7KU4.en.&view=pt&...)

1/2017

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR Mail - ProPublica FOIA request

but is not limited to mailboxes, accounts, addresses and aliases listed in your Agency's online staff directory.

On Fri, Nov 3, 2017 at 10:02 AM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Thanks!

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
[@DOIPressSec](mailto:@DOIPressSec)  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Fri, Nov 3, 2017 at 9:30 AM, Oluwarotimi Abimbola  
<[oluwarotimi\\_abimbola@ios.doi.gov](mailto:oluwarotimi_abimbola@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Good morning Laura and Heather,  
Giving you a heads up that we are addressing a FOIA request that actually came through in the summer. It has some social media related questions. I'll forward over to you shortly you shortly and happy to chat about it with you and or Rebecca whenever you can.

Thanks,  
Rotimi

Sent from my iPhone

--

Rotimi Abimbola  
Chief of Staff  
OCIO, U.S. Department of the Interior  
Office phone: 202-208-2912  
[www.doi.gov/ocio](http://www.doi.gov/ocio)

**To:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Laura Rigas[laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov]; Rebecca Matulka[rebecca\_matulka@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Rotimi Abimbola  
**Sent:** 2017-11-03T10:05:58-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: FOIA Request  
**Received:** 2017-11-03T10:06:10-04:00  
[17-00888qa.pdf](#)

The request is attached. The pertinent sections are pasted below.

Pursuant to FOIA, 5 U.S.C. § 552 *et seq.*, the following Records are hereby requested through the date a response determination is sent to Requester:

- A list of all Twitter accounts blocked by @interior (the official Twitter account of the Department of the Interior). This information can easily be accessed, when logged in as @interior, by going to <https://twitter.com/settings/blocked> and printing out or saving the resulting list.
- A list of all Twitter accounts blocked by @SecretaryZinke (the official Twitter account of Secretary of the Interior Ryan Zinke). This information can easily be accessed, when logged in as @SecretaryZinke, by going to <https://twitter.com/settings/blocked> and printing out or saving the resulting list.
- A list of all direct messages sent or received by @interior (the official Twitter account of the Department of the Interior) beginning Jan. 20, 2017. This information can easily be accessed, when logged in as @interior, by going to the messages tab on the top bar and printing out each message exchange.
- A list of all direct messages sent or received by @SecretaryZinke (the official Twitter account of Secretary of the Interior Ryan Zinke). This information can easily be accessed, when logged in as @SecretaryZinke, by going to the messages tab on the top bar and printing out each message exchange.
- All electronic mailboxes, email accounts and addresses, instant message accounts and addresses, and aliases associated with each of the Department of Interior political appointees used to send or receive any electronic communication related to any matter of the Agency. Responsive records should include, but not be limited to: Employee name, employee job title, employee department, and all affiliated electronic mailboxes, email accounts and addresses, instant message accounts and addresses, and aliases. This covers both active and inactive mailboxes, accounts, addresses and aliases in existence on or after Jan. 20, 2017, whether publicly facing or not, whether provided by the government (e.g., [name@agency.gov](mailto:name@agency.gov)) or external, non-governmental (e.g., [name@aol.com](mailto:name@aol.com)). This also includes,

s://mail.google.com/mail/b/Alk\_JgZdJABM-ffz6MFvECDkXiElr0QWt4pHdYySbZxxXRhJnnl/u/0/?ui=2&ik=793d2a3fcf&jsver=VK6E92h7KU4.en.&view=pt&...

1/2017

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR Mail - ProPublica FOIA request

but is not limited to mailboxes, accounts, addresses and aliases listed in your Agency's online staff directory.

On Fri, Nov 3, 2017 at 10:02 AM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Thanks!

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

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<[oluwarotimi\\_abimbola@ios.doi.gov](mailto:oluwarotimi_abimbola@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Good morning Laura and Heather,  
Giving you a heads up that we are addressing a FOIA request that actually came through in the summer. It has some social media related questions. I'll forward over to you shortly you shortly and happy to chat about it with you and or Rebecca whenever you can.

Thanks,  
Rotimi

Sent from my iPhone

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Rotimi Abimbola  
Chief of Staff  
OCIO, U.S. Department of the Interior  
Office phone: 202-208-2912  
[www.doi.gov/ocio](http://www.doi.gov/ocio)

**To:** Julka, Clarice[clarice\_julka@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Swift, Heather  
**Sent:** 2017-10-30T11:42:46-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: FOIA Request 17-01099 attached  
**Received:** 2017-10-30T11:44:29-04:00

Awesome. Thanks!!

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Mon, Oct 30, 2017 at 11:41 AM, Julka, Clarice <[clarice\\_julka@ios.doi.gov](mailto:clarice_julka@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

You are correct. Here it is.

Clarice Julka  
Department of the Interior  
Office of the Secretary, FOIA Office  
1849 C Street, NW, MS-7328  
Washington, D.C. 20240  
[Clarice\\_Julka@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Clarice_Julka@ios.doi.gov)  
(202) 513-0765 - phone  
(202) 208-6045 - direct line  
(202) 219-2374 - fax

On Mon, Oct 30, 2017 at 11:38 AM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Thanks, Clarice. There should be another one from Western Values Project for all of my emails spanning specific dates in September and October

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Mon, Oct 30, 2017 at 11:36 AM, Julka, Clarice <[clarice\\_julka@ios.doi.gov](mailto:clarice_julka@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Hello,  
Rob Howarth asked that I forward this request to you. Please let me know if you have any questions.

v/r  
Clarice

Clarice Julka  
Department of the Interior  
Office of the Secretary, FOIA Office  
[1849 C Street, NW](#), MS-7328  
Washington, D.C. 20240  
[Clarice\\_Julka@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Clarice_Julka@ios.doi.gov)  
(202) 513-0765 - phone  
(202) 208-6045 - direct line  
(202) 219-2374 - fax



**To:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Julka, Clarice  
**Sent:** 2017-10-30T11:41:34-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: FOIA Request 17-01099 attached  
**Received:** 2017-10-30T11:42:57-04:00  
[18-00127qa.pdf](#)

You are correct. Here it is.

Clarice Julka  
Department of the Interior  
Office of the Secretary, FOIA Office  
1849 C Street, NW, MS-7328  
Washington, D.C. 20240  
[Clarice\\_Julka@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Clarice_Julka@ios.doi.gov)  
(202) 513-0765 - phone  
(202) 208-6045 - direct line  
(202) 219-2374 - fax

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Office of the Secretary, FOIA Office  
[1849 C Street, NW](#), MS-7328  
Washington, D.C. 20240  
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(202) 513-0765 - phone

(202) 208-6045 - direct line

(202) 219-2374 - fax

**To:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** interior\_press@ios.doi.gov[interior\_press@ios.doi.gov]; Grandoni, Dino[Dino.Grandoni@washpost.com]  
**From:** Eilperin, Juliet  
**Sent:** 2017-12-14T10:16:28-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** RE: following up on the FOIA question  
**Received:** 2017-12-14T10:17:33-05:00

Dear Heather,

Just to follow up on a non-internal question: how many lawsuits is DOI facing over FOIA requests at this time? For example, EPA has been sued 36 times this calendar year (and received slightly more FOIA requests in FY 2017 than DOI), so we would like to get the comparable lawsuit figure for the department.

Thanks so much,  
Juliet

**From:** Swift, Heather [mailto:heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 13, 2017 2:56 PM  
**To:** Eilperin, Juliet <Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com>  
**Cc:** interior\_press@ios.doi.gov; Grandoni, Dino <Dino.Grandoni@washpost.com>  
**Subject:** Re: following up on the FOIA question

We don't have anything to add on the internal process.

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Wed, Dec 13, 2017 at 2:50 PM, Eilperin, Juliet <[Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com](mailto:Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com)> wrote:

Dear Heather,

Thanks so much. It's really helpful to get this context, and if there's a way to get the total number of FOIA lawsuits DOI is facing (ideally, compared to last year), and an answer to the questions on why you centralized these monuments FOIAs and whether you've done that for any other topic, that would be great.

And once we draft the piece, we can circle back about a quote or two, either by phone or email.  
Best, Juliet

**From:** Swift, Heather [mailto:[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 13, 2017 2:45 PM  
**To:** Eilperin, Juliet <[Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com](mailto:Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com)>  
**Cc:** [interior\\_press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:interior_press@ios.doi.gov); Grandoni, Dino <[Dino.Grandoni@washpost.com](mailto:Dino.Grandoni@washpost.com)>  
**Subject:** Re: following up on the FOIA question

Got it!

We received 1226 requests during FY17, 140% more than FY16 when we received 509 requests.

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Wed, Dec 13, 2017 at 2:37 PM, Eilperin, Juliet <[Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com](mailto:Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com)> wrote:

Dear All,

I'm just checking on the status on this request, because Dino (cc'd here) is working with me to turn it around today. As you may recall, I first asked for those FOIA request totals just before Thanksgiving.

It would also be helpful to know if you've centralized FOIA requests on other matters, in addition to the one on the monuments rule.

Best, Juliet

---

**From:** Eilperin, Juliet  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 13, 2017 11:07 AM  
**To:** 'Heather Swift' <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Subject:** following up on the FOIA question

Dear Heather,

Do you think I could get the overall FOIA numbers today? I'd love to get the rate of increase compared to last year, as well as how many FOIA-related lawsuits the agency is facing (I know Matt Allen, who now works for BSEE, filed a new FOIA lawsuit yesterday).

Also, I did speak to April, but she referred me back to you on the question of why monument-related FOIA requests have been centralized in the Secretary's office. She thought it was a combination of the fact that a) you've been getting so many requests and b) the monument review involves more than one division in the department. If you can confirm whether that's the case, and provide a quote, that would be ideal, since it's really an overall departmental question rather than something just for a division (such as NPS).

Best, Juliet

Juliet Eilperin  
Senior National Affairs Correspondent  
Washington Post  
[Juliet.eilperin@washpost.com](mailto:Juliet.eilperin@washpost.com)  
(O) 202-334-7774  
(C) (b) (6)  
@eilperin

**To:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]; Eilperin, Juliet[Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com]  
**Cc:** interior\_press@ios.doi.gov[interior\_press@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Grandoni, Dino  
**Sent:** 2017-12-13T15:21:23-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** RE: following up on the FOIA question  
**Received:** 2017-12-13T15:22:17-05:00

Thanks for all this, Heather.

**From:** Swift, Heather [mailto:heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 13, 2017 2:56 PM  
**To:** Eilperin, Juliet <Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com>  
**Cc:** interior\_press@ios.doi.gov; Grandoni, Dino <Dino.Grandoni@washpost.com>  
**Subject:** Re: following up on the FOIA question

We don't have anything to add on the internal process.

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Department of the Interior  
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[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

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**Sent:** Wednesday, December 13, 2017 2:45 PM  
**To:** Eilperin, Juliet <[Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com](mailto:Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com)>  
**Cc:** [interior\\_press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:interior_press@ios.doi.gov); Grandoni, Dino <[Dino.Grandoni@washpost.com](mailto:Dino.Grandoni@washpost.com)>  
**Subject:** Re: following up on the FOIA question

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Department of the Interior

@DOIPressSec

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**Sent:** Wednesday, December 13, 2017 11:07 AM

**To:** 'Heather Swift' <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)>

**Subject:** following up on the FOIA question

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Juliet Eilperin

Senior National Affairs Correspondent

Washington Post

[Juliet.eilperin@washpost.com](mailto:Juliet.eilperin@washpost.com)

(O) 202-334-7774

(C) (b) (6)

@eilperin

**To:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Todd Willens  
**Sent:** 2017-12-15T19:59:58-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: friends of animals  
**Received:** 2017-12-15T20:00:05-05:00

Heather, do you know what time the request came in today?

Todd Willens  
Assistant Deputy Secretary  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW - MIB Room 6116  
Washington, DC 20240

On Dec 15, 2017, at 6:14 PM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

From FWS

Friends of Animals made a Freedom of Information Act inquiry regarding permits issued for import of Elephant trophies from Zimbabwe. They received from the program and have now posted to their website the names (and cities and states) of 16 people who received import permits after the negative finding was issued. They concluded (erroneously) that we had violated our own negative finding by issuing these permits.

Darryl Fears with the Washington Post called to ask about this issue and so we quickly researched the FOIA results. It turns out that 15 of the 16 permits were issued legitimately because they were all for elephants that were hunted prior to the the embargo being enforced by the negative finding. If FoA had called us first to ask us about this, we would have explained it to them. The 16th permit was issued in error (it was a trophy shot in Zimbabwe that was being routed through South Africa, our permit folks thought the elephant was shot in South Africa); it is being rescinded.

The post had a firm 4:30 pm deadline that they would not extend. With little time left on the clock, we spoke to the reporter on background in the hopes of getting him to stand down by carefully explaining the facts behind the issue. He said he would talk to his editor and we are waiting to see the outcome.

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Fri, Dec 15, 2017 at 6:04 PM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

**Feds secretly issued Zimbabwe elephant**

# trophy permits

Posted by Meghan McIntire on 12/15/2017 in

---

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service quietly issued 16 individual permits authorizing the import of sport-hunted elephant trophies from Zimbabwe before announcing to the public in November that it was lifting its ban, Friends of Animals has learned.

According to records obtained by FoA through a Freedom of Information request, FWS started issuing permits in January.

“It is outrageous that despite finding that Zimbabwe has no effective program to conserve the African elephant population in that country, that FWS would covertly issue this year 16 permits authorizing the killing of elephants in that country by American hunters,” said Michael Harris, director of Friends of Animals’ Wildlife Law Program. “These permits were issued without any opportunity for non-agency scientists and other interested parties to provide information regarding the impact the issuance of these permits would have on African elephants in Zimbabwe, which will be completely devastating.”

The permits were issued between Jan. 1 and Nov. 16 of this year to trophy hunters from an array of a dozen states, with five going to Texans.

As a result of this information, FoA amended the lawsuit it filed in federal court in Washington, D.C. on Nov. 22 challenging FWS’s irrational decision to reverse its three-year policy on prohibiting U.S. hunters from importing elephant trophies from Zimbabwe.

The 16 permits were issued to:

Daniel Crippen, Burr Ridge IL; Michael Grieb, Charlevoix, MI; James Thompson, Houston, Texas; John Stevenson, Paradise Valley, Ariz.; Thomas Lobrano, Centreville, MS; Dennis Bristow, Wilson, WY; Alfred Schimpf, Dousman, WI; Michael Thompson, Nobleville, IN; Daniel Gorecki, Hartland, WI; John Tubbs, Belgrade, MT; Scott Dinger, Midland, Texas; Jimmy Tindol, Midland, Texas; Michael Smith, Carthage, Texas; Martin Vick, Mansfield, SD; Cliff Graham, South Ogden, UT; and Thomas Whaley, Marshall, Texas.

Zimbabwe’s overall elephant population has declined 11 percent since 2005, and in some parts of the country by 74 percent. Last year, a federal judge upheld the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service’s 2014 decision to ban imports of sport-hunted African



elephant trophies from Zimbabwe—a case that Friends of Animals and Zimbabwe Conservation Task Force intervened in—striking down a challenge brought by the Safari Club and the NRA.

“Friends of Animals will not tolerate a gift to the Safari Club International and the National Rifle Association, which for decades have spent substantial money perpetuating that myth that trophy hunting is the best way to fund sustainable wildlife conservation in Africa, blatantly ignoring the evidence to the contrary that continues to pile up. Studies show that increased opportunities to legally kill these animals actually fuels poaching,” said Priscilla Feral, president of Friends of Animals.

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior

@DOIPressSec

[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

**To:** Laura Rigas[laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov]; Willens, Todd[todd\_willens@ios.doi.gov]; Magallanes, Downey[downey\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Swift, Heather  
**Sent:** 2017-12-15T18:14:15-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: friends of animals  
**Received:** 2017-12-15T18:15:02-05:00

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## **Feds secretly issued Zimbabwe elephant trophy permits**

Posted by Meghan McIntire on 12/15/2017 in

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-

Heather Swift

Department of the Interior

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**To:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Interior\_Press@ios.doi.gov[Interior\_Press@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Eilperin, Juliet  
**Sent:** 2017-11-20T16:36:45-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** RE: FW: a question about the FOIA the Western Values Project received on Lola Zinke's travel  
**Received:** 2017-11-20T16:38:23-05:00

Dear Heather,  
Thanks very much for this, I will update the piece to reflect these comments.  
Juliet

**From:** Swift, Heather [mailto:heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**Sent:** Monday, November 20, 2017 4:35 PM  
**To:** Eilperin, Juliet <Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com>  
**Cc:** Interior\_Press@ios.doi.gov  
**Subject:** Re: FW: a question about the FOIA the Western Values Project received on Lola Zinke's travel

The Western Values Project is a partisan hatchet group run by democratic campaign staffers.

DOI did not pay for the meal with the Governor and his wife. The Secretary personally paid the State of Alaska for Mrs. Zinke's meal. And, DOI incurred no expenses due to Mrs. Zinke's presence.

The Department provided the extensive list of documents once they were compiled.

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Mon, Nov 20, 2017 at 4:29 PM, Eilperin, Juliet <[Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com](mailto:Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com)> wrote:  
Dear All,  
The story has posted <http://wapo.st/2Ah9i5f#wapo.st> and is running in print tomorrow. I would welcome a comment from someone if that's doable. Thanks.  
Juliet

---

**From:** Eilperin, Juliet  
**Sent:** Monday, November 20, 2017 11:49 AM  
**To:** [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)  
**Subject:** a question about the FOIA the Western Values Project received on Lola Zinke's travel

Dear Press Team,  
We are doing a post on the result of the FOIA that the Western Values Project obtained, in which they filed a lawsuit to receive a response. Here are a couple of things I was hoping to get answered:

1. Do you have a comment as to why Lola Zinke weighed in on the guest list for a town hall hosted by the conservative Young America's Foundation with the Secretary, and why she joined a dinner with Alaska Gov. Walker when it meant staff would have to redo her travel

itinerary?

2. Why did department only provide the documents after facing a lawsuit?

Thanks so much, and I am best reached via email or cell today.

Juliet Eilperin

Juliet Eilperin

Senior National Affairs Correspondent

Washington Post

[Juliet.eilperin@washpost.com](mailto:Juliet.eilperin@washpost.com)

(O) 202-334-7774

(C) (b) (6)

@eilperin

**To:** Love, Kelly A. EOP/WHO (b) (6)  
**From:** Swift, Heather  
**Sent:** 2017-11-03T09:19:58-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: FW: White House Environmental Quality Council lawsuit - comment?  
**Received:** 2017-11-03T09:20:45-04:00

doj

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Fri, Nov 3, 2017 at 9:19 AM, Love, Kelly A. EOP/WHO (b) (6) wrote:

Hi Heather - How is this being handled?

---

**From:** [Emily.Flitter@thomsonreuters.com](mailto:Emily.Flitter@thomsonreuters.com) [mailto:[Emily.Flitter@thomsonreuters.com](mailto:Emily.Flitter@thomsonreuters.com)]  
**Sent:** Friday, November 3, 2017 9:16 AM  
**To:** Love, Kelly A. EOP/WHO (b) (6)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] White House Environmental Quality Council lawsuit - comment?

Hi,

Yesterday, six environmental groups sued Interior and the White House Council on Environmental Quality over FOIA requests the groups said Interior and the WH CEQ aren't honoring. Here's the complaint

><https://earthjustice.org/sites/default/files/files/Monuments-FOIA-Complaint-timestamped.pdf><

I'm writing a short story on this – do you want to comment, please? I'm on my cell today: (b) (6)

(b) (6)

Best,

Emily

**Emily Flitter**  
Correspondent

**Thomson Reuters**

Phone: 1 646 223 6310  
@FlitterOnFraud  
[thomsonreuters.com](http://thomsonreuters.com)

**To:** Rateike, Bradley A. EOP/WHO (b) (6)  
**From:** Heather Swift  
**Sent:** 2017-09-29T18:57:55-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Guidance // Call Raj With Questions If Needed  
**Received:** 2017-09-29T18:58:03-04:00

"Will work"

Heather Swift  
Press Secretary  
Department of the Interior

On Sep 29, 2017, at 6:27 PM, Rateike, Bradley A. EOP/WHO (b) (6) wrote:

Following up on our call earlier today, please use the guidance below to respond to inquiries about agency head travel.

---

**From:** Shah, Raj S. EOP/WHO  
**Sent:** Friday, September 29, 2017 6:02 PM  
**To:** Rateike, Bradley A. EOP/WHO (b) (6)  
**Subject:** Guidance // Call Raj With Questions If Needed

“The Trump Administration will work to ensure all officials follow appropriate rules and regulations when traveling, including seeking commercial options at all times appropriate and feasible, to ensure the efficient use of government resources.” – SPOX

- Then, work the story on background. Point to process as well in terms of following the law and legal approval.
- No announcements about the Secretary’s policies regarding private jet travel.
- No announcements about travel rules, etc.
- Do not treat a document request from a reporter like a FOIA request. Treat a FOIA request as such.

**Raj Shah**  
Deputy Assistant to the President  
Principal Deputy Press Secretary  
The White House  
Desk: (b) (6)  
Cell: (b) (6)  
@RajShah45



**To:** Rigas, Laura[laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov]; Shah, Raj S. EOP/WHO (b) (6)  
**Cc:** Rateike, Bradley A. EOP/WHO (b) (6) Heather  
Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]; Newell, Russell[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Love, Kelly A. EOP/WHO  
**Sent:** 2017-12-28T17:54:06-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Head's Up: FOIAs on Travel  
**Received:** 2017-12-28T17:54:16-05:00

Adding Raj for awareness.

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 28, 2017, at 5:32 PM, Rigas, Laura <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Hi -- as you know, there's ongoing requests for information about travel by politicals at DOI, including the Secretary and Dep Sec. FYI, tomorrow we expect a very large response to be posted to our FOIA website (it's also in response to active litigation).

The only thing "new" about this that I'm aware of is that it's the travel documents (receipts, approvals, itineraries, budget info, emails, etc.) for 40 employees. Not aware of any specific issues, just giving you an FYI.

Thanks,  
L

*Laura Keehner Rigas*  
*Communications Director*  
*U.S. Department of the Interior*  
*(202) 897-7022 cell*  
*@Interior*

**To:** Barnum, Jeremy[jeremy\_barnum@nps.gov]  
**Cc:** Paul Ross[paul\_ross@ios.doi.gov]; April Slayton[april\_slayton@nps.gov]; Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]; Russell Newell[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Laura Rigas  
**Sent:** 2018-01-04T18:21:16-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Heads up on NPS FOIA response related to Made In America Outdoor Recreation Advisory Committee FOIA Request  
**Received:** 2018-01-04T18:21:26-05:00

Thx.

Laura Keehner Rigas  
Communications Director  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 897-7022 cell  
@Interior

On Jan 4, 2018, at 5:43 PM, Barnum, Jeremy <[jeremy\\_barnum@nps.gov](mailto:jeremy_barnum@nps.gov)> wrote:

DOI Colleagues,

Flagging the below/attached response to a FOIA request from someone at the Democratic National Committee asking for all emails sent or received by our Deputy Director, Management and Administration and Associate Director, Business Services related to the Made In America Outdoor Recreation Advisory Committee.

There doesn't appear to be anything unusual in the responsive documents. There is some discussion of confusion around the announcement.

NPS FOIA plans to send the response tomorrow at noon.

Please let us know if you have any questions.

Thanks,

Jeremy K. Barnum  
Acting Chief of Public Affairs  
National Park Service  
Office: (202) 513-7262

----- Forwarded message -----

I wanted to give you a heads up that the following email will be sent out tomorrow around 12pm in response to a FOIA received by our office requesting documents to/from Lena or Terry which reference the NPS "Made In

America" Outdoor Recreation Advisory Committee.

In addition to the intended transmittal email body below, you will find attachments of responsive records we will be releasing and a .pdf of the initial request should you wish to read it in full.

This prepared response have been reviewed by Jason Waanders.

Should you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact me.

Jessica McHugh  
WASO FOIA Liaison  
202-354-1449  
[waso\\_foia\\_requests@nps.gov](mailto:waso_foia_requests@nps.gov)

---

Ms. Dillon,

This email is in response to your December 5, 2017, Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request (NPS-2018-00247) for all emails, including attachments, sent or received by Lena McDowall, Deputy Director, Management and Administration and/or Terry Austin, Associate Director, Business Services which reference the National Park Service's proposed "Made In America" Outdoor Recreation Advisory Committee from the period of March 1,207 through December 5, 2017.

Upon further review, your request is granted in part and denied in part. We are providing four files, totaling approximately 112 pages of responsive material. Portions of 6 pages, however, are being withheld under Exemption 6, which allows an agency to withhold "personnel and medical files and similar files the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy." 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(6).

The phrase "similar files" covers any agency records containing information about a particular individual that can be identified as applying to that individual. To determine whether releasing records containing information about a particular individual would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy, we are required to balance the privacy interest that would be affected by disclosure against any public interest in the information. Under the FOIA, the only relevant public interest to consider under the exemption is the extent to which the information sought would shed light on an agency's performance of its statutory duties or otherwise let citizens 'know what their government is up to.

The burden is on the requester to establish that disclosure would serve the public interest. When the privacy interest at stake and the public interest

in disclosure have been determined, the two competing interests must be weighed against one another to determine which is the greater result of disclosure: the harm to personal privacy or the benefit to the public. The purposes for which the request for information is made do not impact this balancing test, as a release of information requested under the FOIA constitutes a release to the general public. The information that has been withheld under Exemption 6 consists of personal information containing private telephone numbers, private email addresses, and private residential locations. We have determined that the individuals to whom this information pertains have a substantial privacy interest in withholding it. Additionally, we have determined that the disclosure of this information would shed little or no light on the performance of the agency's statutory duties. Because the harm to personal privacy is greater than whatever public interest may be served by disclosure, release of the information would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of the privacy of these individuals and we are withholding it under Exemption 6.

Pursuant to regulation, 43 CFR 2.24(b) the following person is responsible for this denial:

Jessica McHugh, WASO FOIA Liaison

National Park Service

Additionally the following attorney was consulted during the preparation of this response:

Jason Waanders, Office of the Solicitor

U.S. Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C.

You have the right to appeal this denial of your request. You may file an appeal by writing to:

Freedom of Information Act Appeals Officer

Office of the Solicitor

U.S. Department of the Interior

1849 C Street, NW

MS-6556-MIB,

Washington, D.C. 20240

[foia.appeals@sol.doi.gov](mailto:foia.appeals@sol.doi.gov)

Your appeal must be received no later than 30 workdays after the date of this final response. The appeal should be marked, both on the envelope and the face of the appeal letter, with the legend "FREEDOM OF INFORMATION APPEAL." Your appeal should be accompanied by a copy of your original request and copies of all correspondence between yourself and the National Park Service related to this request, along with any information you have which leads you to believe the records are available, including where they might be found, if the location is known to you. Please note, appeals received after 5 p.m. EST will be considered to have been received as of the following day.

Also as part of the 2007 OPEN Government Act FOIA amendments, the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) was created to offer mediation services to resolve disputes between FOIA requesters and Federal agencies as a nonexclusive alternative to litigation. Using OGIS services does not affect your right to pursue litigation.

You may contact OGIS in any of the following ways:

Office of Government Information Services (OGIS)

National Archives and Records Administration

Room 2510

8601 Adelphi Road

College Park, MD 20740-6001

E-mail: [ogis@nara.gov](mailto:ogis@nara.gov)

Phone:301-837-1996

Fax:301-837-0348

Toll-free:1-877-684-6448

Additionally, because the National Park Service creates and maintains law enforcement records, we are required by the Department of Justice to

provide the following information, even though it may or may not apply to your specific request. Congress excluded three discrete categories of law enforcement and national security records from the requirements of the FOIA. See 5 U.S.C. 552(c) (2006 & Supp. IV 2010). This response is limited to those records that are subject to the requirements of the FOIA. This is a standard notification that we are required to give all our requesters and should not be taken as an indication that excluded records do, or do not, exist.

Should you have any further questions regarding this request, please feel free to contact me. I can be reached at the address above or by phone at 202-351-1449. I may also be reached via email at [Jessica\\_McHugh@nps.gov](mailto:Jessica_McHugh@nps.gov).

<18-247 McDowall Results(part 1) jcm.pdf>

<FOIA 18-247 Austin(part 1) V2 jmc.pdf>

<FOIA 18-247 Austin(part 2) V2 jmc.pdf>

<FOIA 18-247 Austin(part 3)\_Redacted jcm.pdf>

<18-247 ABSV \_Made in America\_\_ FOIA from\_ Lauren Dillon Incoming Request.pdf>

**To:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Jeremy Barnum  
**Sent:** 2018-01-04T17:52:57-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Heads up on NPS FOIA response related to Made In America Outdoor Recreation Advisory Committee FOIA Request  
**Received:** 2018-01-04T17:53:04-05:00

Yes.

Jeremy Barnum  
Public Affairs Officer  
National Park Service

On Jan 4, 2018, at 5:47 PM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Is that the one whwere we misspelled the contact's name wrong?

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Thu, Jan 4, 2018 at 5:43 PM, Barnum, Jeremy <[jeremy\\_barnum@nps.gov](mailto:jeremy_barnum@nps.gov)> wrote:

DOI Colleagues,  
Flagging the below/attached response to a FOIA request from someone at the Democratic National Committee asking for all emails sent or received by our Deputy Director, Management and Administration and Associate Director, Business Services related to the Made In America Outdoor Recreation Advisory Committee.

There doesn't appear to be anything unusual in the responsive documents. There is some discussion of confusion around the announcement.

NPS FOIA plans to send the response tomorrow at noon.

Please let us know if you have any questions.

Thanks,

Jeremy K. Barnum  
Acting Chief of Public Affairs  
National Park Service  
Office: (202) 513-7262

----- Forwarded message -----

I wanted to give you a heads up that the following email will be sent out tomorrow around 12pm in response to a FOIA received by our office requesting documents to/from Lena or Terry which reference the NPS "Made In America" Outdoor Recreation Advisory Committee.

In addition to the intended transmittal email body below, you will find attachments of responsive records we will be releasing and a .pdf of the initial request should you wish to read it in full.

This prepared response have been reviewed by Jason Waanders.

Should you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact me.

Jessica McHugh  
WASO FOIA Liaison  
202-354-1449

[waso\\_foia\\_requests@nps.gov](mailto:waso_foia_requests@nps.gov)

---

Ms. Dillon,

This email is in response to your December 5, 2017, Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request (NPS-2018-00247) for all emails, including attachments, sent or received by Lena McDowall, Deputy Director, Management and Administration and/or Terry Austin, Associate Director, Business Services which reference the National Park Service's proposed "Made In America" Outdoor Recreation Advisory Committee from the period of March 1, 2017 through December 5, 2017.

Upon further review, your request is granted in part and denied in part. We are providing four files, totaling approximately 112 pages of responsive material. Portions of 6 pages, however, are being withheld under Exemption 6, which allows an agency to withhold "personnel and medical files and similar files the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy." 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(6).

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The burden is on the requester to establish that disclosure would serve the public interest. When the privacy interest at stake and the public interest in disclosure have been determined, the two competing interests must be weighed against one another to determine which is the greater result of disclosure: the harm to personal privacy or the benefit to the public. The purposes for which the request for information is made do not impact this balancing test, as a release of information requested under the FOIA constitutes a release to the general public. The information that has been withheld under Exemption 6 consists of personal information containing private telephone numbers, private email addresses, and private residential locations. We have determined that the individuals to whom this information pertains have a substantial privacy interest in withholding it. Additionally, we have determined that the disclosure of this information would shed little or no light on the performance of the agency's statutory duties. Because the harm to personal privacy is greater than whatever public interest may be served by disclosure, release of the information would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of the privacy of these individuals and we are withholding it under Exemption 6.

Pursuant to regulation, 43 CFR 2.24(b) the following person is responsible for this denial:

Jessica McHugh, WASO FOIA Liaison

National Park Service

Additionally the following attorney was consulted during the preparation of this response:

Jason Waanders, Office of the Solicitor



U.S. Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C.

You have the right to appeal this denial of your request. You may file an appeal by writing to:

Freedom of Information Act Appeals Officer  
Office of the Solicitor  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW  
MS-6556-MIB,  
Washington, D.C. 20240  
[foia.appeals@sol.doi.gov](mailto:foia.appeals@sol.doi.gov)

Your appeal must be received no later than 30 workdays after the date of this final response. The appeal should be marked, both on the envelope and the face of the appeal letter, with the legend "FREEDOM OF INFORMATION APPEAL." Your appeal should be accompanied by a copy of your original request and copies of all correspondence between yourself and the National Park Service related to this request, along with any information you have which leads you to believe the records are available, including where they might be found, if the location is known to you. Please note, appeals received after 5 p.m. EST will be considered to have been received as of the following day.

Also as part of the 2007 OPEN Government Act FOIA amendments, the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) was created to offer mediation services to resolve disputes between FOIA requesters and Federal agencies as a nonexclusive alternative to litigation. Using OGIS services does not affect your right to pursue litigation.

You may contact OGIS in any of the following ways:

Office of Government Information Services (OGIS)  
National Archives and Records Administration  
Room 2510  
8601 Adelphi Road  
College Park, MD 20740-6001

E-mail: [ogis@nara.gov](mailto:ogis@nara.gov)  
Phone:301-837-1996  
Fax:301-837-0348  
Toll-free:1-877-684-6448

Additionally, because the National Park Service creates and maintains law enforcement records, we are required by the Department of Justice to provide the following information, even though it may or may not apply to your specific request. Congress excluded three discrete categories of law enforcement and national security records from the requirements of the FOIA. See 5 U.S.C. 552(c) (2006 & Supp. IV 2010). This response is limited to those records that are subject to the requirements of the FOIA. This is a standard notification that we are required to give all our requesters and should not be taken as an indication that excluded records do, or do not, exist.

Should you have any further questions regarding this request, please feel free to contact me. I can be reached at the address above or by phone at 202-351-1449. I may also be reached via email at [Jessica\\_McHugh@nps.gov](mailto:Jessica_McHugh@nps.gov).

**To:** Daly, Matthew[MDaly@ap.org]  
**From:** Swift, Heather  
**Sent:** 2017-12-08T13:52:29-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Helicopter trips  
**Received:** 2017-12-08T13:53:16-05:00

## TENNESSEE

### Zoo fire kills 45 animals, despite sheepdog's heroics

*Published: Friday, December 8, 2017*

Nearly 50 animals died at the Little Ponderosa Zoo and Rescue in Clinton, Tenn., this week when a fire burned down its main barn and sent the roof crumbling.

Fire officials said the blaze started just after noon Monday when sparks flew from an electrical malfunction.

The zoo's manager, Mary Lou Redmond, said yesterday that workers had "six to 10 seconds" to get animals out before the roof caved in. In total, the fire took 45 victims, about a fifth of the zoo's animals, she said.

The barn had been the small zoo's main entrance, and it also housed offices, a gift shop and a variety of animals — from reptiles to monkeys to sheep. But, Redmond said, "there are blessings."

As she was evacuating caged birds, a three-legged Geoffroy's cat — named Geoffrey — sprang into her arms, Redmond said.

"How he was able to do that, I don't know," she said.

But then, as Redmond was trying to save a group of arctic foxes, the roof collapsed on them.

The biggest hero of the day was Charlie, a 7-month-old Pyrenean mountain dog, who navigated a fallen beam and burning debris to lead a panicked herd of sheep and goats out of the blazing barn.

He was able to rescue "all but seven," Redmond said, and he lay with the herd to calm them down after the fire.

"He was wanting to stay with them and protect them," Redmond said. "He was really worried about them."

Charlie came out of the fire with burns and blisters, but he is expected to recover (Travis Dorman, *[Knoxville News Sentinel](#)*, Dec. 7). — NS

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Fri, Dec 8, 2017 at 1:03 PM, Daly, Matthew <[MDaly@ap.org](mailto:MDaly@ap.org)> wrote:

Hi Heather

We are looking at the 3 helicopter trips taken by Sec. Zinke this summer, in Nevada , W.Va. and Virginia. I know there were stories y'day about at least 2 of them.

Just looking for a response. Accdg to the FOIA, one trip was to inspect Gold Butte and Basin and Range, and the others were to Shepherdstown and Yorktown.

Thanks.

Matthew

Matthew Daly

Congressional Reporter

The Associated Press

202-641-9481 direct

(b) (6) cell

Follow me on Twitter: @MatthewDalyWDC

The information contained in this communication is intended for the use of the designated recipients named above. If the reader of this communication is not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that you have received this communication in error, and that any review, dissemination, distribution or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please notify The Associated Press immediately by telephone at +1-212-621-1500 and delete this email. Thank you.

**To:** Daly, Matthew[MDaly@ap.org]  
**From:** Swift, Heather  
**Sent:** 2017-12-08T13:44:21-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Helicopter trips  
**Received:** 2017-12-08T13:45:08-05:00

Matthew - can you explain to me what's so salacious here? The Politico piece is factually inaccurate and yellow journalism at its worst.

After a congressional hearing, the Secretary attended an official Congressional event with the Congressman from Montana and the Speaker of the House before going to an emergency management briefing. On the other occasion he did an aerial survey of a power line corridor, which was pending before the Department, while traveling back from meetings in southern Virginia in order to get to a meeting with the Vice President. The helo use in Nevada was not a "trip" it was an aerial survey of a more than million-acre swath of land that has few roads.

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Fri, Dec 8, 2017 at 1:03 PM, Daly, Matthew <[MDaly@ap.org](mailto:MDaly@ap.org)> wrote:

Hi Heather

We are looking at the 3 helicopter trips taken by Sec. Zinke this summer, in Nevada , W.Va. and Virginia. I know there were stories y'day about at least 2 of them.

Just looking for a response. Accdg to the FOIA, one trip was to inspect Gold Butte and Basin and Range, and the others were to Shepherdstown and Yorktown.

Thanks.

Matthew

Matthew Daly

Congressional Reporter

The Associated Press

202-641-9481 direct

(b) (6) cell

Follow me on Twitter: @MatthewDalyWDC

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**To:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Crandall, Megan  
**Sent:** 2017-09-20T17:43:59-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Hurricane Maria/DOI story....  
**Received:** 2017-09-20T17:44:21-04:00

Yes, indeed it is. lol

On Wed, Sep 20, 2017 at 3:41 PM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

hahahahahahaha. And now that's in the FOIA universe.

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Wed, Sep 20, 2017 at 5:36 PM, Crandall, Megan <[mcrandal@blm.gov](mailto:mcrandal@blm.gov)> wrote:

I just about snorted soda all over my keyboard ... too funny. (b) (6)

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] lol

On Wed, Sep 20, 2017 at 3:32 PM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

(b) (6) of course there will be pix. Gotta  
(b) (6) like i bag a python #AMIRITE

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Wed, Sep 20, 2017 at 5:31 PM, Crandall, Megan <[mcrandal@blm.gov](mailto:mcrandal@blm.gov)> wrote:

Girl, please tell me you're going to get pix! That's awesome!  
I've eaten rattler and it's pretty much scaly chicken, but I think you're right about pythons  
... don't think there's much good eating there. lol

On Wed, Sep 20, 2017 at 3:27 PM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

ummmmm YES

I'll be hunting pythons next month ;) Probably not delicious sausage material.

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
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On Wed, Sep 20, 2017 at 5:27 PM, Crandall, Megan <[mcrandal@blm.gov](mailto:mcrandal@blm.gov)> wrote:

(b) (6) is hunting in ID and I texted him yesterday and told him that you and I have standing orders for his jalapeno cheese venison/elk sausage. :)

On Wed, Sep 20, 2017 at 3:24 PM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Eh, streeter is always going to be a dick. Crazy crazy but I like. Better than being bored. It's fun too.

-

Heather Swift  
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[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Wed, Sep 20, 2017 at 5:22 PM, Crandall, Megan <[mcrandal@blm.gov](mailto:mcrandal@blm.gov)> wrote:

Hah! Not today after my mess up with that response to Streater. Ugh. I felt so bad. So how are you? You running like crazy these days?

M

On Wed, Sep 20, 2017 at 3:20 PM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

you must be the favorite in your family lol

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Wed, Sep 20, 2017 at 5:19 PM, Crandall, Megan <[mcrandal@blm.gov](mailto:mcrandal@blm.gov)> wrote:

Every mom has her favorite kid! lol

On Wed, Sep 20, 2017 at 3:17 PM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

This is so great!!!! I love all the offices equally but if there was a competition Arizona would be winning today.

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Wed, Sep 20, 2017 at 5:14 PM, Cargile, Amber <[acargile@blm.gov](mailto:acargile@blm.gov)> wrote:

Heather--

In other news, one of our BLM Rangers sent this photo back to us today from Puerto Rico..we Tweeted it out and posted on Facebook after clearing through BLM Law Enforcement in Washington. The two ladies in the photo also consented to the Ranger's request to share it on social media. Essentially two Rangers and a BLM medic dodged flying debris to retrieve vital heart medication left in the lady's hotel room and brought it back to her in the shelter area of the hotel in the midst of the hurricane.

Thought I'd pass it along because it's an amazing DOI/Hurricane Maria response story that you may want to have in your hip pocket to pitch if needed. Let us know if you want the original photo...we'll send along as well.

Thanks again!

***Amber Cargile***

Deputy State Director--Communications  
Bureau of Land Management  
Arizona State Office  
One North Central Avenue, Suite 800  
Phoenix, Arizona 85004  
602.417.9448 (desk)  
480.392.1422 (mobile)  
[www.blm.gov](http://www.blm.gov)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Stacy, Heather** <[hstacy@blm.gov](mailto:hstacy@blm.gov)>  
Date: Wed, Sep 20, 2017 at 1:35 PM  
Subject: Re: new Tweet  
To: "Cargile, Amber" <[acargile@blm.gov](mailto:acargile@blm.gov)>





**BLM Arizona** @BLMArizona · 49s

Two BLM officers & a BLM medic retrieve medication for two heart patients during #HurricaneMaria2017. #HeroicActions [facebook.com/BLMArizona/pos...](https://www.facebook.com/BLMArizona/posts/)



US Dept of Interior and BLMNational



## Bureau of Land Management - Arizona

Published by Bureau Arizona [?] · 7 mins · 🌐

Two BLM officers and a BLM medic received a request from hotel staff to assist with retrieving medication for two heart patients. The medication had been left in their room while being evacuated to a safer location during #HurricaneMaria in Puerto Rico.

Hotel security attempted to escort the BLM officers to their room but, as they exited the main building, the security officer were almost struck by flying metal.

Because the BLM officers were wearing protective equipment, including bump helmets, they were able to access the room under hazardous conditions and retrieve the medications.

The appreciation for these officers heroic actions can clearly be seen in the smile on this patients face.

U.S. Department of the Interior Bureau of Land Management



### *Heather Stacy*

Public Affairs Specialist  
Bureau of Land Management  
Arizona State Office  
One North Central Avenue, Suite 800  
Phoenix, Arizona 85004  
602.417.9282  
[www.blm.gov](http://www.blm.gov)

**Megan M. Crandall**  
Bureau of Land Management  
Communications

Ph: 801-539-4018

Cell: 385-315-5271

Fax: 801-539-4013

**Join the Conversation!**

--

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**Join the Conversation!**

**To:** Sydney Pereira[s.pereira@newsweekgroup.com]  
**Cc:** Interior\_Press@ios.doi.gov[Interior\_Press@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Heather Swift  
**Sent:** 2017-11-03T13:49:59-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Immediate deadline: response to lawsuit filed by environmental groups?  
**Received:** 2017-11-03T13:50:07-04:00

The Department sent a draft report to the White House and has no new announcements on the monument review at this time.

Heather Swift  
Press Secretary  
Department of the Interior

On Nov 3, 2017, at 1:48 PM, Sydney Pereira <[s.pereira@newsweekgroup.com](mailto:s.pereira@newsweekgroup.com)> wrote:

Thank you for your quick response. Apart from the lawsuit, I have a few questions:

Are the proposals submitted to the White House that were previously reported by the [Washington Post](#) a few months ago expected to be accepted?

When can the public expect to find out whether those proposals will be made official?

If the boundaries of the four national monuments are expected to shrink, as is proposed, what potential plans does the Interior have to use the lands for "traditional uses," including grazing, mining and timber?

Thank you!

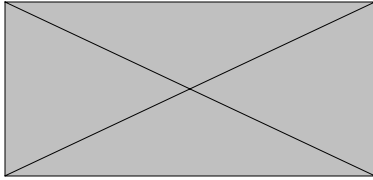
Best,  
Sydney

Sydney Pereira | Science Writer  
**NEWSWEEK MEDIA GROUP**  
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T | +1 646 867 7541

E | [s.pereira@newsweekgroup.com](mailto:s.pereira@newsweekgroup.com)

W | [newsweekgroup.com](http://newsweekgroup.com)



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On Fri, Nov 3, 2017 at 1:42 PM, Heather Swift <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Please direct all questions regarding litigation to DOJ.

Heather Swift  
Press Secretary  
Department of the Interior

On Nov 3, 2017, at 1:41 PM, Sydney Pereira <[s.pereira@newsweekgroup.com](mailto:s.pereira@newsweekgroup.com)> wrote:

Hello,  
My name is Sydney Pereira -- a reporter for Newsweek. I'm writing about some of the recent proposals surrounding national parks and monuments made by government agencies.

Today environmental groups [filed a lawsuit](#) against the Interior, the Bureau of Land Management, and the Council on Environmental Quality as a result of a lack of response to repeated FOIA requests about national monument changes.

I have a few questions. My deadline is as soon as possible -- ideally before 2:30 pm.

1. Does the agency plan to release the records that were requested by the groups in regards to Bears Ears and other national monuments up for review? If yes, when? If not, why?
2. What is the reason for a lack of response to the FOIA requests?
3. When can the public expect to know when proposal for national monument changes will be accepted or denied?

Thank you for your time.

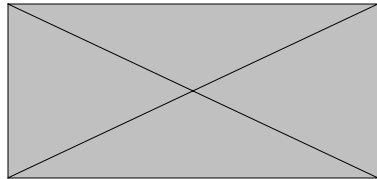
Best,  
Sydney Pereira

Sydney Pereira | Science Writer  
**NEWSWEEK MEDIA GROUP**  
[7 Hanover Square, Floor 5, New York, NY, 10004](#)

T | [+1 646 867 7541](tel:+16468677541)

E | [s.pereira@newsweekgroup.com](mailto:s.pereira@newsweekgroup.com)

W | [newsweekgroup.com](http://newsweekgroup.com)



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**To:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** karmen\_young@ios.doi.gov  
**Sent:** 2017-10-24T17:35:22-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Informal Inquiry: 3 FOIA Requests  
**Received:** 2017-10-24T17:36:09-04:00  
[17-01275qa.pdf](#)  
[17-01277qa.pdf](#)  
[17-01278qa.pdf](#)

Hi Heather,

Trusting all is well. Called and left a voice message yesterday late afternoon as I am sure you are busy. All three requests are from the same Requester at Politico.

17-01275  
17-01277  
17-01278

Just wanted to find out if you would happen to have records for any of these and/or who would you recommend that we reach out to for additional records.

Please see attached requests, but please give me a call.

Thanks for any assistance you can offer.  
Karmen

--

Department of the Interior  
Office of the Secretary, FOIA Office  
1849 C Street, NW, MS-7328  
Washington, D.C. 20240  
[os\\_foia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:os_foia@ios.doi.gov)  
(202) 513-0765 - phone  
(202) 219-2374 - fax



**To:** Laura\_Rigas@ios.doi.gov[Laura\_Rigas@ios.doi.gov];  
russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov];  
downey\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov[downey\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Heather Swift  
**Sent:** 2017-10-20T14:53:05-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** INTERIOR: Lolita Zinke makes her mark outside the Cabinet -- Friday, October 20, 2017 --  
www.eenews.net  
**Received:** 2017-10-20T14:53:14-04:00

<https://www.eenews.net/greenwire/2017/10/20/stories/1060064241>

# Lolita Zinke makes her mark outside the Cabinet

[Michael Doyle](#), E&E News reporter

Published: Friday, October 20, 2017

## INTERIOR

Lolita Zinke (center) plays a uniquely public role as the spouse of a Cabinet secretary. Pamela King/E&E News

Meet Lolita Zinke, the woman dubbed a "real trooper" by her husband.

While Ryan Zinke runs the Interior Department, Lolita Zinke serves as the opinionated campaign chairwoman for one of several Republicans running for a high-profile U.S. Senate seat in Montana.

She sometimes hits the press, hard.

On Wednesday, deploying a #FakenewsCNN hashtag, the California native said on Twitter she would "completely agree" with President Trump's tweeted assessment that most Americans "think the Media is inventing stories about Trump & his Administration."

The wife of a former Navy SEAL and the mother of three, including a Navy veteran, Lolita Zinke wades into other controversies as well. In a Sept. 24 tweet, she denounced as "#disgraceful and #clueless" the football players who knelt during the national anthem.

And, at times, she's right by the Interior secretary's side, although officials characterize this support as familial and nothing out of the ordinary.

"Mrs. Zinke has zero role at the department," Interior Department spokeswoman Heather Swift said today.

An Interior official added that "much like previous secretaries and spouses, she occasionally meets her husband while he is traveling at her own personal expense" and that "she and all Cabinet spouses received a federal ethics briefing."

Still, Lolita Zinke's diverse activities spotlight the sometimes blurry boundaries between public and private spheres that confront family members in every administration. These are perennial issues, now amplified by the social media megaphones that can turn quiet musings into broadcast opinions and by the heightened scrutiny of Cabinet-level ethics ([Greenwire](#), Oct. 12).

On Oct. 5, a frequent Zinke critic called the Western Values Project filed a Freedom of Information Act lawsuit seeking documents concerning Lolita Zinke's participation in Interior meetings, presence on official trips and emails dealing with government business, among other matters.

So far, the lawsuit stated, the department "has failed" to produce any documents or make any determination concerning the FOIA request first filed in June ([E&E News PM](#), Oct. 5).

The Justice Department, representing Interior, has not yet responded to the lawsuit.

Some spousal activity comes with the territory.

The husband of former Interior Secretary Sally Jewell would attend various D.C. events alongside his wife, such as the annual lighting of the White House Christmas tree. Once, he went hiking with her in Maine. The wife of Ken Salazar, Jewell's predecessor, also took part in some events.

"Both spouses were known to Interior staff, but I think it was rare for them to accompany [the secretaries] on official travel," said one former Interior official, speaking on condition of anonymity.

In April, for instance, Lolita Zinke was alongside her husband in Atlanta at an NRA event. She was also with him on a tour the secretary and a group of senators took to Norway, Greenland and Alaska.

### **Political activity**

Outside Interior, Lolita Zinke explicitly entered the political arena in early September, when she was named chairwoman of Republican businessman Troy Downing's Senate campaign. Downing is running for the chance to take on Democratic Sen. Jon Tester, a red-state politician who some thought might someday be challenged by Zinke himself.

Tester voted for Zinke's confirmation, while 31 Senate Democrats opposed him.

"This isn't title only," Lolita Zinke said in a statement last month. "I'm going to be hands-on in this campaign because it's vital for Montana and America that we elect Troy."

Lolita Zinke tweeted this photo in April, writing, "CA's First dog, Calusa Brown. Dogs make people happy, treats make dogs happy." @LolaZinke/Twitter

Downing's campaign filings, covering the period through Sept. 30, do not show any payments to Lolita Zinke. One public way in which she's contributed, though, is through her Twitter account, on which she has tweeted or retweeted more than two dozen pro-Downing messages.

Lolita Zinke has 241 Twitter followers, a small fraction of the 57,376 followers who track the official Interior secretary's Twitter account. A number of her Twitter followers are reporters.

She stands out, in some respects. The wife of EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt does not appear to have a Twitter account, while the wife of Energy Secretary Rick Perry last tweeted in 2015.

She's tweeted strictly fun pictures, like one from an August vacation with her husband that she titled "Love on the Bosphorus." She's also tweeted photos that shed some light on how she's by her husband's side at other

times, like an April 13 photo of the two in a meeting in Sacramento with California Gov. Jerry Brown (D).

The picture, though, was not the classic political grip-and-grin photo. Instead of Brown, the photo showed the Zinkes and the governor's dog.

"Dogs make people happy," Lolita Zinke wrote. "Treats make dogs happy."

### **'This knucklehead shows up'**

She was born Lolita Hand in Santa Barbara, Calif., and graduated from the University of California, Santa Barbara, before attending California Western School of Law. She met Ryan Zinke in 1990 at McP's Irish Pub and Grill, a bar near Coronado, on a night, he recalled decades later, when she was wearing a colorful skirt and black cowboy boots.

At the time, she was a single mom, raising her daughter Jennifer following the death in a car accident of her first husband. Zinke was serving as an instructor at the Navy's famously grueling Basic Underwater Demolition/SEAL, or BUD/S, training and going through a divorce from his first wife.

They married in August 1992, when Ryan Zinke was still in the upward trajectory of a high-speed Navy career that often sent him far away.

"I spent years missing birthdays, family dinners, tucking my kids in at night, and anniversaries. Lolita was left raising a family alone with the uncertainty of my return," Ryan Zinke wrote in his 2016 memoir, titled "American Commander."

"It takes someone special to be a SEAL; it takes someone even more special to be a SEAL's wife," the book added.

Consider, Zinke recounted, what happens when someone returns home from a special warfare deployment. Instead of secret missions and the silent brotherhood, he finds kids running around, teenagers awkwardly growing up and chores that don't include kicking down doors.

"All of a sudden this knucklehead shows up saying that he's the man of

the house, and the wives who have been dealing with the usual family drama say, "Wait a second! The crown is not yet yours!" Zinke wrote.

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"I walked out in the hallway and I said, 'Well, Lola, what do you think?'" Zinke subsequently recounted to the Public Lands Council. "She says, 'That meeting went great, but I think he was looking at you for Interior.'"

"I had no idea," Zinke confessed ([E&E News PM](#), March 28).

**To:** (b)(6) Heather Swift  
**From:** Heather Swift  
**Sent:** 2017-10-20T14:46:06-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** INTERIOR: Lolita Zinke makes her mark outside the Cabinet -- Friday, October 20, 2017 -- www.eenews.net  
**Received:** 2017-10-20T14:46:09-04:00

<https://www.eenews.net/greenwire/2017/10/20/stories/1060064241>

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[Michael Doyle](#), E&E News reporter

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"I had no idea," Zinke confessed ([E&E News PM](#), March 28).

**To:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Erica Martinson  
**Sent:** 2017-10-18T17:14:14-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Izembek  
**Received:** 2017-10-18T17:23:27-04:00

Hi Heather -

I'm looking to follow up on some information (confusingly portrayed) in that Sunday Washington Post story on the King Cove road. Do you have some time to discuss on the phone?

I've taken a look at the FOIA'd emails -- though I'm not sure I have the full trove of documents. Is there an easy way to request a copy of that FOIA? (I'm familiar with EPA's database, but it seems Interior's works differently.)

I'm generally interested in getting a response on current actions that Interior is taking to move this issue forward, and some insight on the legal possibilities of doing a land swap between the agency and the state, without an act of Congress. The way I'm reading these documents, it seems like it's legally possible, but quite time consuming. Is that correct?

Thanks,

Erica

--

Erica Martinson  
Washington, DC reporter  
**Alaska Dispatch News**  
cell: (b) (6)  
[@EricaMartinson](mailto:EricaMartinson)

**To:** Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Lurie, Maria  
**Sent:** 2017-10-17T09:21:09-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Legal Advice Re. FOIA Request  
**Received:** 2017-10-17T09:21:56-04:00

Dear Ms. Swift:

I am an attorney in the Office of the Solicitor. I am contacting you at the request of Tim Murphy, the Assistant Solicitor for the Branch of General Legal Services. Mr. Murphy has advised me that he has determined that the FOIA request recently received for 30-days worth of your emails is one which the Department must respond to, given that the scope is clearly identified in terms of the date range and subject matter.

I would expect the process to unfold like this: the responsive records would be provided to the OS FOIA Office, headed by Clarice Julka. Ms. Julka's shop would then review the records to ascertain whether any of the information may be redacted pursuant to a FOIA exemption. (For example, there may be information that would be subject to redaction under FOIA Exemption 6, which protects personal privacy interests. Likewise, there may be information subject to withholding under the deliberative process privilege of FOIA Exemption 5.) If Ms. Julka's shop determines that redactions are in order, the proposed redactions are then reviewed by an attorney in the Branch of General Legal Services to confirm that there is a legal basis to assert the proposed FOIA exemptions. Once an attorney signs off on the use of the exemptions, Ms. Julka's shop would then make a release that explains why certain information is being redacted pursuant to the FOIA.

Should you have any concerns about this matter, please contact me at your convenience. Also, please note that I have left a voicemail for you on 208.5338, concerning this same topic.

Regards,

**Maria Lurie**  
Attorney-Advisor  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
Office of the Solicitor  
Division of General Law

2

02.208.7272 (direct dial)

This e-mail (including any attachments) is intended for the use of the individual or entity to whom or which it is addressed. It may contain information that is privileged, confidential, or otherwise protected by applicable law. If you are not the intended recipient or the employee or agent responsible for delivery of this e-mail to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution, copying, or use of this e-mail or its contents is strictly prohibited. If you have received this e-mail in error, please notify the sender immediately and destroy all copies. Thank you.

**To:** Laura Rigas[laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov]; Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Harris, Kaprice[kaprice.tucker@sol.doi.gov]; Karen Richardson[karen.richardson@sol.doi.gov]  
**From:** Keable, Edward  
**Sent:** 2017-07-21T18:28:19-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Legal Reviews  
**Received:** 2017-07-21T18:28:47-04:00

Lori, Heather,

General Law has in the past two administrations provided legal services to the Office of Communications to review draft press statements that related to personnel litigation toward the goal of ensuring public comments are consistent with the Department's litigation posture and, of course, accuracy.

We would be happy to continue to do so for your team if you think that would be helpful. If you do think it would be helpful for us to provide you this drafting review service, I would ask you to forward all such draft press material to Associate Solicitor-General Law Kaprice Tucker, Employment and Labor Law Unit Director Karen Richardson, and me. This would help us to expedite our reviews as I know you often work on deadline.

This service is also available for press materials related to FOIA, FACA, procurement, torts, and intellectual property litigation. Tim Murphy would replace Karen on FOIA and FACA litigation matters and Jim Weiner would replace her on procurement, torts, and intellectual property litigation matters.

I would be happy to talk to you about this kind of support if you have any questions. Thanks.

Ed

--

Edward T. Keable  
Deputy Solicitor-General Law  
Office of the Solicitor  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
Phone: 202-208-4423  
Fax: 202-208-5584  
[edward.keable@sol.doi.gov](mailto:edward.keable@sol.doi.gov)

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**To:** stephen\_wackowski@ios.doi.gov[stephen\_wackowski@ios.doi.gov];  
andrea\_travnicek@ios.doi.gov[andrea\_travnicek@ios.doi.gov];  
douglas\_domenech@ios.doi.gov[douglas\_domenech@ios.doi.gov];  
bryan\_rice@ios.doi.gov[bryan\_rice@ios.doi.gov];  
russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov];  
alex\_hinson@ios.doi.gov[alex\_hinson@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Heather Swift  
**Sent:** 2017-10-12T14:04:11-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** MoU on Community Relocation  
**Received:** 2017-10-12T14:05:43-04:00  
[ATT00001.htm](#)  
[Final Response Package 17-01447.pdf](#)

Hello team! You're receiving this email because we got an inquiry about relocation of communities and an interagency agreement. See questions below and MOU attached. Any assistance on answers is appreciated. Deadline noon tomorrow.

Heather Swift  
Press Secretary  
Department of the Interior

Hi there,

I'm a journalist writing a story for Mother Jones about community relocation due to extreme weather. I understand that the Department of Interior was involved in an interagency working group on this subject. I have also obtained via FOIA the Memorandum of Understanding regarding "community-led managed retreat and voluntary relocation."

I am requesting comment on the following questions:

- Since the MoU was signed in December 2016/January 2017 what work has the Department done on its goals for this plan?
- As the MoU outlines, the group should meet every other month. In addition, it states that within 9 months of signing the MoU, an "action plan" should be developed. Has the Department met these deadlines? If yes, can you please provide a status update as to where the project currently sits. If no, please explain why not.

My deadline is this Friday, October 13.

Many thanks,  
Kyla

--

**KYLA MANDEL**

Journalist | NYC | London

[kylamandel.com](http://kylamandel.com)

tweet: @kylamandel

skype: kyla.mandel

call: (US) [917-325-6483](tel:917-325-6483)

(UK) [+44 7807138642](tel:+44-7807138642)

--

**KYLA MANDEL**

Journalist | NYC | London

[kylamandel.com](http://kylamandel.com)

tweet: @kylamandel

skype: kyla.mandel

call: (US) 917-325-6483

(UK) +44 7807138642

**To:** Clarice Julka[clarice\_julka@ios.doi.gov]; Rachel Spector[rachel.spector@sol.doi.gov]; Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Banco, Nicholas  
**Sent:** 2017-10-25T10:26:47-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** OS-2017-00617 Question Requiring Immediate Response  
**Received:** 2017-10-25T10:27:39-04:00  
[For Review.pdf](#)  
[Original Request.pdf](#)

Hi Heather,

We're currently in litigation with the Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington regarding a request for the Secretary's comments at a March 23, 2017 meeting with the American Petroleum Institute.

At Ed Keable's behest, we have prioritized the processing of the attached request to complete it as soon as possible. To that end, we have been working with Rachel Spector of SOL for legal review.

In the course of our analysis we found a communication from you concerning the Secretary's messaging. SOL has inquired (b) (5)

Please provide confirmation as soon as possible to help us close one of the Department's active litigations!

Thanks,

Nick

--

Nicholas Banco  
Department of the Interior  
Office of the Secretary, FOIA Office  
1849 C Street, NW, MS-7023  
Washington, D.C. 20240  
[Nicholas\\_Banco@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Nicholas_Banco@ios.doi.gov)  
(202) 513-0806 - phone



**To:** osfoia@ios.doi.gov[osfoia@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Swift, Heather  
**Sent:** 2017-07-28T09:29:45-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** out of office - This is important: If you're a reporter on deadline, please email interior\_press@ios.doi.gov. Re: Email Search Request - FOIA Request: OS-2017-00929  
**Received:** 2017-07-28T09:29:52-04:00

Thanks for your email. I'm out of the office today. I'll be checking email periodically but not regularly.

**This is important:** If you're a reporter on deadline, please email [interior\\_press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:interior_press@ios.doi.gov).

If you're looking for a press release please check [www.doi.gov/pressreleases](http://www.doi.gov/pressreleases)

Thank you,  
Heather Swift

--

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

**To:** leah\_fairman@ios.doi.gov[leah\_fairman@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Swift, Heather  
**Sent:** 2017-08-16T08:42:43-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** out of office - This is important: If you're a reporter on deadline, please email interior\_press@ios.doi.gov. Re: FOIA Glacier WVP - Invitation to collaborate  
**Received:** 2017-08-16T08:42:49-04:00

Thanks for your email. I'm out of the office and generally out of cell phone coverage until Monday August 21st.

**This is important:** If you're a reporter on deadline, please email [interior\\_press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:interior_press@ios.doi.gov).

If you're looking for a press release please check [www.doi.gov/pressreleases](http://www.doi.gov/pressreleases)

Thank you,  
Heather Swift

--

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

**To:** randal\_bowman@ios.doi.gov[randal\_bowman@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Swift, Heather  
**Sent:** 2017-08-16T15:40:20-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** out of office - This is important: If you're a reporter on deadline, please email interior\_press@ios.doi.gov. Re: Fwd: Search Request - FOIA Request: OS-2017-01043  
**Received:** 2017-08-16T15:49:26-04:00

Thanks for your email. I'm out of the office and generally out of cell phone coverage until Monday August 21st.

**This is important:** If you're a reporter on deadline, please email [interior\\_press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:interior_press@ios.doi.gov).

If you're looking for a press release please check [www.doi.gov/pressreleases](http://www.doi.gov/pressreleases)

Thank you,  
Heather Swift

--

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

**To:** heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Connor, James  
**Sent:** 2017-08-14T19:57:05-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Out of Office Re: FOIA DMU Processing - Execution Error  
**Received:** 2017-08-14T19:57:11-04:00

Thank you for your email ~

I will be out of the office (b) (6) starting 08/11/17, and will return on 08/16/17. I will be unable to monitor my email, so you may receive a delayed response.

If you require immediate assistance, please contact Steve Moyer. He can be reached at [steven\\_moyer@ios.doi.gov](mailto:steven_moyer@ios.doi.gov).

--

Thanks,

James Connor  
IT Specialist (Applications Software), End User Services Branch  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
Office of the Chief Information Officer | Service Delivery Division  
O: 916-978-6137 | M: 916-402-4257  
Telework Days: Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays

**To:** Laura Rigas[laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov]; Russell Newell[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov]; Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]; Paul Ross[paul\_ross@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** April Slayton[april\_slayton@nps.gov]  
**From:** Barnum, Jeremy  
**Sent:** 2017-10-04T17:28:57-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** PEER News Release on SOI at Channel Islands  
**Received:** 2017-10-04T17:29:38-04:00

DOI Colleagues,

We were just alerted to the below news release related to a PEER FOIA request from earlier this year related to the Secretary and Channel Islands.

The park is planning to refer queries to Interior Press, unless you would like for us to do otherwise.

Thanks,

Jeremy

<https://www.peer.org/news/news-releases/zinke-commandeered-boat-for-channel-islands-jaunt.html>.

For Immediate Release: Oct 04, 2017  
Contact: Kirsten Stade (202) 265-7337

ZINKE COMMANDEERED BOAT FOR CHANNEL ISLANDS JAUNT  
Diverted to Pick Up Wife, Aunt, and Guests He Classified as “Technical Experts”

Posted on Oct 04, 2017 | Tags: California, DOI, NPS

Washington, DC — Exorbitant travel by the Interior Secretary is not limited to charter planes but includes seagoing vessels, according to documents released today by Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility (PEER). In mid-April, Ryan Zinke diverted a National Park Service (NPS) boat to pick him and family members up for a three-hour island tour featuring a Junior Ranger swearing-in ceremony.

On April 18th, the NPS boat Ocean Ranger left its Ventura, California port to travel to Santa Barbara Harbor to pick up Zinke, his wife, and aunt to take them and other members of his party to Santa Rosa Island, part of the Channel Islands National Park, and back that same day.

The party spent more time at sea than on the island, with a three-hour itinerary that consisted largely of photo ops, a tour, lunch, and Zinke swearing in middle school students as Junior Rangers. Notably –

Use of the government ship cost taxpayers around \$4,000 dollars, including fuel and crew overtime, an estimate that does not include significant time by several NPS staff people;

Zinke also brought along two local fishermen whom he classified as “technical experts” though on what issue is unclear. As such, they traveled free; and

To pay for his wife and aunt, NPS presented Zinke with a bill for \$142, which by mid-June increased to \$152 in late fees. The bill appears to have been paid by late June.

“There is nothing deeply wrong with this ‘grip-and-grin’ tour but it is galling when the Secretary is telling everyone else to tighten their belts,” stated PEER Executive Director Jeff Ruch who obtained the documents under the Freedom of Information Act after employees complained of the time and expense lost for no discernible purpose. “Taxpayers should not foot the bill for public officials acting as tourists.”

The records also describe Zinke expressing a desire to open a “working demonstration ranch” on Santa Rosa Island to “highlight the island’s ranching heritage,” quoting a note from the park superintendent. The Zinke tour group also included members of the Vail family which ran a cattle ranch on the island until 1998 and a commercial hunting operation there until 2011.

The Channel Islands are often called “the Galapagos Islands of North America” due to the unique and wide diversity of plants and animals found nowhere else on earth. In recent years, NPS has undertaken a major and costly effort to preserve and protect these native resources, including removal of nonnative plants and animals, recovery of island foxes, and reestablishment of bald eagles.

“Cattle and imported game animals are not the ‘heritage’ of Santa Rosa but an aberrant moment in its history,” added Ruch, noting a recent Zinke directive to maximize hunting opportunities even on national park lands. “Our major concern is that Ryan Zinke wants to turn this ecological jewel back into a game preserve.”

###

Look at records about Ocean Ranger expenses

See Zinke’s technical experts

Look at Zinke bill of collection

View the Zinke itinerary

Read Zinke “demonstration ranch” idea

Revisit Channel Islands ecological restoration

<https://www.peer.org/news/news-releases/zinke-commandeered-boat-for-channel-islands-jaunt.html>

**To:** Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Howarth, Robert  
**Sent:** 2017-09-11T09:30:15-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Please call me, thanks, Rob  
**Received:** 2017-09-11T09:30:29-04:00

--

Robert Howarth  
Deputy Director for Correspondence and FOIA Management  
Office of the Executive Secretariat and Regulatory Affairs  
Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20240  
202-208-3181  
202-208-4451 (direct)  
202-549-8961 (cell)

**To:** heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** FOIA DMU Processing  
**Sent:** 2017-08-15T17:48:09-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Processing complete for FOIA Glacier American Oversight  
**Received:** 2017-08-15T17:48:18-04:00

**Your label: "FOIA Glacier American Oversight" finished processing successfully.**

The label was processed and can now be found in your Google Drive:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/0B8Sy6c3rOOgIaHA3X1BxM1hmTXc>

It took less than 10 minutes to complete. If you chose to send via email, you will also find a zip file with the same name in your Drive view. If the folder was shared, the folder icon will indicate it. You can also add more viewers:

1. Open Google Drive
2. Find the folder in the list
3. Right click, and choose "Share"
4. Enter in desired recipients
5. Adjust sharing settings accordingly
6. Click "Done"

\*Recipients must belong to the Department of the Interior

If you need more assistance, please contact your local help desk.



\*Created with the FOIA DMU Processing Application\*



**To:** heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** FOIA DMU Processing  
**Sent:** 2017-08-15T17:29:58-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Processing complete for FOIA Glacier WVP  
**Received:** 2017-08-15T17:30:05-04:00

**Your label: "FOIA Glacier WVP" finished processing successfully.**

The label was processed and can now be found in your Google Drive:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/0B8Sy6c3rOOgIQ0FVMzJZd0Rud0U>

It took less than 20 minutes to complete. If you chose to send via email, you will also find a zip file with the same name in your Drive view. If the folder was shared, the folder icon will indicate it. You can also add more viewers:

1. Open Google Drive
2. Find the folder in the list
3. Right click, and choose "Share"
4. Enter in desired recipients
5. Adjust sharing settings accordingly
6. Click "Done"

\*Recipients must belong to the Department of the Interior

If you need more assistance, please contact your local help desk.



\*Created with the FOIA DMU Processing Application\*

**To:** heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** FOIA DMU Processing  
**Sent:** 2017-08-14T19:08:08-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Processing complete for FOIA Glacier Zuckerberg  
**Received:** 2017-08-14T19:08:15-04:00

**Your label: "FOIA Glacier Zuckerberg" finished processing successfully.**

The label was processed and can now be found in your Google Drive:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/0B8Sy6c3rOOgIV1BadUE4ODhsMTA>

It took less than 5 minutes to complete. If you chose to send via email, you will also find a zip file with the same name in your Drive view. If the folder was shared, the folder icon will indicate it. You can also add more viewers:

1. Open Google Drive
2. Find the folder in the list
3. Right click, and choose "Share"
4. Enter in desired recipients
5. Adjust sharing settings accordingly
6. Click "Done"

\*Recipients must belong to the Department of the Interior

If you need more assistance, please contact your local help desk.



\*Created with the FOIA DMU Processing Application\*

**To:** heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** FOIA DMU Processing  
**Sent:** 2017-08-14T20:00:18-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Processing complete for FOIA June 12 BENM Call  
**Received:** 2017-08-14T20:00:26-04:00

**Your label: "FOIA June 12 BENM Call" finished processing successfully.**

The label was processed and can now be found in your Google Drive:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/0B8Sy6c3rOOgISG55dXRIRmRaSm8>

It took less than 5 minutes to complete. If you chose to send via email, you will also find a zip file with the same name in your Drive view. If the folder was shared, the folder icon will indicate it. You can also add more viewers:

1. Open Google Drive
2. Find the folder in the list
3. Right click, and choose "Share"
4. Enter in desired recipients
5. Adjust sharing settings accordingly
6. Click "Done"

\*Recipients must belong to the Department of the Interior

If you need more assistance, please contact your local help desk.



\*Created with the FOIA DMU Processing Application\*

**To:** heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** FOIA DMU Processing  
**Sent:** 2017-08-14T19:57:23-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Processing complete for FOIA June 12 BENM Call  
**Received:** 2017-08-14T19:57:30-04:00

**Your label: "FOIA June 12 BENM Call" finished processing successfully.**

The label was processed and can now be found in your Google Drive:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/0B8Sy6c3rOOgIdFhVclh1SVJReHc>

It took less than 5 minutes to complete. If you chose to send via email, you will also find a zip file with the same name in your Drive view. If the folder was shared, the folder icon will indicate it. You can also add more viewers:

1. Open Google Drive
2. Find the folder in the list
3. Right click, and choose "Share"
4. Enter in desired recipients
5. Adjust sharing settings accordingly
6. Click "Done"

\*Recipients must belong to the Department of the Interior

If you need more assistance, please contact your local help desk.



\*Created with the FOIA DMU Processing Application\*

**To:** heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** FOIA DMU Processing  
**Sent:** 2017-12-22T15:50:00-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Processing complete for OSC  
**Received:** 2017-12-22T15:50:02-05:00

**Your label: "OSC" finished processing successfully.**

The label was processed and can now be found in your Google Drive:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1B1F8ikNLlvOnRTEWYZ1tdXv6kGhp-uCN>

It took less than 65 minutes to complete. If you chose to send via email, you will also find a zip file with the same name in your Drive view. If the folder was shared, the folder icon will indicate it. You can also add more viewers:

1. Open Google Drive
2. Find the folder in the list
3. Right click, and choose "Share"
4. Enter in desired recipients
5. Adjust sharing settings accordingly
6. Click "Done"

\*Recipients must belong to the Department of the Interior

If you need more assistance, please contact your local help desk.



\*Created with the FOIA DMU Processing Application\*

**To:** Quimby, Frank[frank\_quimby@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Heather Swift  
**Sent:** 2017-10-12T14:00:49-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: (Press) Comment re MoU on Community Relocation  
**Received:** 2017-10-12T14:32:18-04:00

You're always a wealth of info. Thank you.

Heather Swift  
Press Secretary  
Department of the Interior

On Oct 12, 2017, at 10:52 AM, Quimby, Frank <[frank\\_quimby@ios.doi.gov](mailto:frank_quimby@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

certainly Office of Insular Affairs and A/S for Insular Affairs, inundated Pacific islands already relocating probably Secretary's rep in Alaska (voluntary relocation of coastal villages) and if there is a coordinating federal or Interior group for Alaska

perhaps USGS as they do coastal topography monitoring and storm surge projections and longer term coastal erosion projections

and possibly the Assistant Secretary for Parks and Pefuges (as some coastal areas managed by DOI land management agencies might be affected or involved in relocations)

On Thu, Oct 12, 2017 at 12:34 PM, Heather Swift <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Frank, hoping you can help me out her. see the attached interagency MOU on relocating communities. Which hallways other than ASIA and BIA should I include in this?

Heather Swift  
Press Secretary  
Department of the Interior

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Kyla Mandel <[kylamandel@gmail.com](mailto:kylamandel@gmail.com)>  
**To:** Heather Swift <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Cc:** "[Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)" <[Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: (Press) Comment re MoU on Community Relocation

Hi Heather,

Attached is the MoU which on the third page of the attached document lists the other agencies.

Many thanks,  
Kyla

On Thu, Oct 12, 2017 at 11:34 AM, Heather Swift <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Kyla, Can you please send me the documents you're referencing, the location of the project, and the other agencies involved?

Thanks!  
Heather Swift  
Press Secretary

Sent from my iPad

On Oct 12, 2017, at 11:26 AM, Kyla Mandel <[kylamandel@gmail.com](mailto:kylamandel@gmail.com)> wrote:

Hi there,

I'm a journalist writing a story for Mother Jones about community relocation due to extreme weather. I understand that the Department of Interior was involved in an interagency working group on this subject. I have also obtained via FOIA the Memorandum of Understanding regarding "community-led managed retreat and voluntary relocation."

I am requesting comment on the following questions:

- Since the MoU was signed in December 2016/January 2017 what work has the Department done on its goals for this plan?
- As the MoU outlines, the group should meet every other month. In addition, it states that within 9 months of signing the MoU, an "action plan" should be developed. Has the Department met these deadlines? If yes, can you please provide a status update as to where the project currently sits. If no, please explain why not.

My deadline is this Friday, October 13 at 3pm.

Many thanks,  
Kyla

--

**KYLA MANDEL**  
Journalist | NYC | London

[kylamandel.com](http://kylamandel.com)

tweet: @kylamandel  
skype: kyla.mandel  
call: (US) [917-325-6483](tel:917-325-6483)  
(UK) [+44 7807138642](tel:+44-7807138642)

--

**KYLA MANDEL**  
Journalist | NYC | London

[kylamandel.com](http://kylamandel.com)

tweet: @kylamandel  
skype: kyla.mandel  
call: (US) 917-325-6483  
(UK) +44 7807138642



**To:** Kyla Mandel[kylamandel@gmail.com]  
**Cc:** Interior\_Press@ios.doi.gov[Interior\_Press@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Heather Swift  
**Sent:** 2017-10-12T12:31:21-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: (Press) Comment re MoU on Community Relocation  
**Received:** 2017-10-12T12:31:40-04:00

Many thanks!

Heather Swift  
Press Secretary  
Department of the Interior

> On Oct 12, 2017, at 9:21 AM, Kyla Mandel <kylamandel@gmail.com> wrote:

>

> Hi Heather,

>

> Attached is the MoU which on the third page of the attached document lists  
> the other agencies.

>

> Many thanks,

> Kyla

>

> On Thu, Oct 12, 2017 at 11:34 AM, Heather Swift <heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov>  
> wrote:

>

>> Kyla, Can you please send me the documents you're referencing, the  
>> location of the project, and the other agencies involved?

>>

>> Thanks!

>> Heather Swift

>> Press Secretary

>>

>> Sent from my iPad

>>

>> On Oct 12, 2017, at 11:26 AM, Kyla Mandel <kylamandel@gmail.com> wrote:

>>

>> Hi there,

>>

>> I'm a journalist writing a story for Mother Jones about community  
>> relocation due to extreme weather. I understand that the Department of  
>> Interior was involved in an interagency working group on this subject. I  
>> have also obtained via FOIA the Memorandum of Understanding regarding  
>> "community-led managed retreat and voluntary relocation."

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>> I am requesting comment on the following questions:

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>> Department done on its goals for this plan?

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>> addition, it states that within 9 months of signing the MoU, an "action  
>> plan" should be developed. Has the Department met these deadlines? If yes,  
>> can you please provide a status update as to where the project currently

>> sits. If no, please explain why not.  
>>  
>> My deadline is this Friday, October 13 at 3pm.  
>>  
>> Many thanks,  
>> Kyla  
>>  
>> --  
>> \*KYLA MANDEL\*  
>> Journalist | NYC | London  
>>  
>> kylamandel.com  
>>  
>> tweet: @kylamandel  
>> skype: kyla.mandel  
>> call: (US) 917-325-6483 <(917)%20325-6483>  
>> (UK) +44 7807138642 <+44%207807%20138642>  
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> (UK) +44 7807138642  
> <Final Response Package 17-01447.pdf>

**To:** Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Interior\_Press@ios.doi.gov[Interior\_Press@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Kyla Mandel  
**Sent:** 2017-10-12T12:21:23-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: (Press) Comment re MoU on Community Relocation  
**Received:** 2017-10-12T12:22:12-04:00  
[Final Response Package 17-01447.pdf](#)

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Journalist | NYC | London

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call: (US) 917-325-6483

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**To:** Larrabee, Jason[jason\_larrabee@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Laura Rigas[laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov]; Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Downey Magallanes  
**Sent:** 2017-12-13T15:41:32-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: \*\*\*PENDING RELEASE\*\*\* 18-162 Dillon GLAC Zinke visit - Invitation to collaborate  
**Received:** 2017-12-13T15:41:40-05:00

Ok- they did say they needed to hear back by tomorrow morning or they will release.

Sent from my iPad

On Dec 13, 2017, at 3:37 PM, Larrabee, Jason <[jason\\_larrabee@ios.doi.gov](mailto:jason_larrabee@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

new to me. Happy to discuss when everyone is back at MIB.

Jason Larrabee  
Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
[1849 C Street, NW](#) -- MIB Room 3154  
Washington, DC 20240  
office: 202-208-4416

NOTE: Every email I send or receive is subject to release under the Freedom of Information Act.

On Wed, Dec 13, 2017 at 3:33 PM, Downey Magallanes  
<[downey\\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov](mailto:downey_magallanes@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Were you aware of this one? I have looked through so Laura up to you on when this should go. Jason you may want to confirm whether or not this needs to go- I am not sure (b) (5) [REDACTED]. Also I am not entirely clear on why (b) (5) [REDACTED]. We need to have a discussion in person on (b) (5) [REDACTED].  
Downey

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "NPS FOIA (via Google Drive)" <[drive-shares-noreply@google.com](mailto:drive-shares-noreply@google.com)>  
**Date:** December 13, 2017 at 1:59:46 PM EST  
**To:** <[downey\\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov](mailto:downey_magallanes@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Cc:** <[april\\_slayton@nps.gov](mailto:april_slayton@nps.gov)>, <[jeremy\\_barnum@nps.gov](mailto:jeremy_barnum@nps.gov)>, <[jeffrey\\_olson@nps.gov](mailto:jeffrey_olson@nps.gov)>, <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)>, <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)>, <[charis\\_wilson@nps.gov](mailto:charis_wilson@nps.gov)>

**Subject: \*\*\*PENDING RELEASE\*\*\* 18-162 Dillon GLAC Zinke visit -  
Invitation to collaborate**  
**Reply-To: NPS FOIA <[npsfoia@nps.gov](mailto:npsfoia@nps.gov)>**

npsfoia@nps.gov has invited you to **contribute to** the following shared folder:

**\*\*\*PENDING RELEASE\*\*\* 18-162 Dillon GLAC Zinke  
visit**

Hi Everyone,

I just wanted to give you a heads up about another pending FOIA release. This request was for records held by Glacier National Park relating to Secretary Zinke's visit there in March. Aside from a few redactions of a personal cell phone number and conference call information, we are planning on releasing everything.

The park is hoping to be able to get their response out tomorrow which is the 20th day. So if I don't hear anything to the contrary by tomorrow morning, I will advise the park that they can proceed with issuing their response.

Feel free to contact me with any questions.

Thanks,

Charis Wilson, Ph.D., CRM  
NPS FOIA Officer  
303-969-2959

[Open](#)

Google Drive: Have all your files within reach from any device.

Google Inc. [1600 Amphitheatre Parkway, Mountain View, CA 94043, USA](https://www.google.com)

**To:** Hinson, Alex[alex\_hinson@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Newell, Russell[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov]; Laura Rigas[Laura\_Rigas@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Heather Swift  
**Sent:** 2017-09-13T17:40:48-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: \*DRAFT DOI Daily Comms  
**Received:** 2017-09-13T17:49:57-04:00

Cool. Thanks Alex

Heather Swift  
Press Secretary  
Department of the Interior

On Sep 13, 2017, at 5:21 PM, Hinson, Alex <[alex\\_hinson@ios.doi.gov](mailto:alex_hinson@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

I sent it at 3:59 pm after I had the good to go from you, Heather. HuffPo ran with it and was the first to publish anything regarding the Clinton exchange.

On Wed, Sep 13, 2017 at 5:18 PM, Heather Swift <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

This has to go ASAP. WH needs by 4Pm.

Heather Swift  
Press Secretary  
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not sure I would include the Huffington Post headline as a top story.

Russell Newell  
Deputy Director of Communications  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 208-6232  
@Interior

On Wed, Sep 13, 2017 at 3:44 PM, Hinson, Alex <[alex\\_hinson@ios.doi.gov](mailto:alex_hinson@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

**INTERIOR**  
**WASHINGTON**  
9/13/2017

## DAILY COMMUNICATIONS REPORT

TO: White House Cabinet Affairs Communications

FROM: Heather Swift & Laura Rigas

SUBJECT: Communications Update

### **TV Hits:**

- [Fox Business: Secretary Zinke joins Stuart Varney to discuss Hurricanes and More](#)

### **Press Inquiries:**

- Many small inquiries.
- ABC News: (Stephanie Ebbs)—**REQUEST**-- Can you all share any practical examples of how the secretary's memorandum on addressing wildfires might be implemented? Are there specific policies or actions that bureau managers have been asking to implement more aggressively? How will this change their day-to-day activities?--**RESPONSE**--If I may respond on background with some background -- I don't know your level of experience with wildfires so I'm going to get pretty general here. Think of when you start a campfire. You have your large healthy logs on top but you also have your bed of twigs and brush at the bottom to get the fire started. Once that's lit and the fire really heats up, then the big logs catch and you have a full fledge fire that will consume anything you feed it. The buildup of fuels in the forest acts the same way. It creates a situation that is ripe for fires to grow in temperature, intensity and size very quickly, catching those big healthy trees on fire more quickly... and thus spreading to homes, lodges, etc. So what is at the heart of this is overgrown forests. When forests are not adequately managed and dead/dying/burnt trees are not thinned, these fuels as well as thick underbrush (and little vegetation that springs up after wildfires because a lot of land burns over and over because half burnt logs are not removed) build up over time. This creates a situation that a lot of people in the west colloquially call a tinderbox because it is so vulnerable. Secretary Zinke's directive applies to all land management bureaus and services within the department that have burnable vegetation - but that includes the National Park Service which is having a historically bad fire season, the BLM which had the largest fire of the season at 275k acres, and the USFWS. (US Forest Service is USDA) The Trump Administration is taking



aggressive and preemptive measures to prevent wildfires and combat their spread through active fuels management versus the previous administration's more "naturalist" approach. The naturalist approach allowed fuels to build up and forests to thicken, making them more prone to wildfires that are more difficult and dangerous to suppress. The directive also orders bureaus and services to protect structures and assets like visitors centers, lodges, and infrastructure by thinning the urban-wildland interface, which is the area where forests butt up against man made structures and settlements. So back to your question about practical examples....One easy example is mechanical thinning and burns at Sequoia-Kings Canyon National Park. They have fire crews that work in the early spring to thin dead and dying timber and burn the under brush to protect against fire. They also thin around structures as a defense in case a fire breaks out, it doesn't have a lot of wood to burn and make its way to the structure (lodges, visitors centers, etc). Yosemite also does this. This order does not allow commercial timber harvests in National Parks. It does however order preemptive fuels management, like what already happens in parks like Sequoia Kings Canyon National Park. I've CCed Jeremy Barnum from NPS who can get you in touch with them. Here's photos of the Secretary joining the fire crew in early April. You could also talk to the DOI Office of Wildland Fire director Brian Rice who has been with BIA, BLM and US Forest Service fire crews. He can give you a whole host of practical examples and why it's important for firefighting and firefighter safety. His public affairs person, Gigi is also CCed.

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## Top Stories

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Alex Hinson

Deputy Press Secretary  
Department of the Interior  
C: 202-641-5381

--

Alex Hinson

Deputy Press Secretary  
Department of the Interior  
C: 202-641-5381

**To:** Hinson, Alex[alex\_hinson@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]; Laura Rigas[Laura\_Rigas@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Newell, Russell  
**Sent:** 2017-09-13T17:27:43-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: \*DRAFT DOI Daily Comms  
**Received:** 2017-09-13T17:34:24-04:00

sorry, I didn't see that it had already gone when I sent my suggestion.

Russell Newell  
Deputy Director of Communications  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 208-6232  
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Deputy Press Secretary  
Department of the Interior  
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**Cc:** Russell Newell[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov]; Laura Rigas[Laura\_Rigas@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Heather Swift  
**Sent:** 2017-09-13T15:45:47-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: \*DRAFT DOI Daily Comms  
**Received:** 2017-09-13T15:46:37-04:00

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Heather Swift  
Press Secretary  
Department of the Interior

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9/13/2017

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**FROM:** Heather Swift & Laura Rigas

**SUBJECT:** Communications Update

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Department of the Interior  
C: 202-641-5381

<WH Daily comms update 9-13.docx>

**To:** Hinson, Alex[alex\_hinson@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Russell Newell[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov]; Laura Rigas[Laura\_Rigas@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Heather Swift  
**Sent:** 2017-11-03T16:40:53-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: \*DRAFT DOI Daily Report  
**Received:** 2017-11-03T16:41:01-04:00

Good here. Wheels up.

Heather Swift  
Press Secretary  
Department of the Interior

On Nov 3, 2017, at 4:38 PM, Hinson, Alex <[alex\\_hinson@ios.doi.gov](mailto:alex_hinson@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

**INTERIOR**  
**WASHINGTON**  
11/3/2017

**DAILY COMMUNICATIONS REPORT**

**TO:** White House Cabinet Affairs Communications

**FROM:** Department of the Interior Communications Team

**SUBJECT:** Communications Update

**Press Inquiries:**

- Small inquiries and logistical inquiries.
- **\*Multiple Inquiries on EITI\*** Questions are being directed to the State Department.
- **\*Multiple Inquiries\*** Six environmental groups sued Interior and the White House Council on Environmental Quality over FOIA requests the groups said Interior and the WH CEQ aren't honoring.—**RESPONSE--** Please contact DOJ for any questions regarding litigation.
- **New York Times:** (Lisa Friedman)—**REQUEST—** Does Interior have any comment on the National Climate Assessment Volume 1 out today? The main finding is that humans have been the dominant cause of atmospheric and ocean warming over the past half century, and that climate change poses an urgent risk to U.S. communities and economic sectors. Does Mr. Zinke accept the finding scientists from 13 government agencies including DOI?

—**RESPONSE**— Please direct questions about the report to NOAA.

- **E&E News:** (Kellie Lunney)—**REQUEST**-- Wanted to see if Interior had any comment on Senate and House Democrats Oppose Delay of BLM Waste Prevention Rule, Urge Zinke to Save Taxpayer Money and Protect Public Health . Can take something up until about 3:45—**RESPONSE**— “As part of President Trump's America-First Energy Strategy and executive order, the Department has reviewed and flagged the Waste Prevention rule as one we will suspend, revise or rescind given its significant regulatory burden that encumbers American energy production, economic growth and job creation. The rule is expected to have real and harmful impacts on onshore energy development and could impact state and local jobs and revenue. Small independent oil and gas producers in states like North Dakota, Colorado and New Mexico, which account for a substantial portion of our nation's energy wealth, could be hit the hardest.”

### **Top Stories**

- **THE HILL:** [Greens sue Trump for national monument documents](#)
- **E&E News:** [Groups sue for public records on Zinke review](#)
- **Helena Independent Record (MT):** [Politicians tarnish Montana's image](#)

### **Top Issues and Accomplishments**

- Interior continues to support all Hurricane Harvey, Hurricane Irma, Hurricane Maria, and Hurricane Nate efforts. All bureaus are executing their emergency plans and assisting in Hurricane relief.
- Monday, DOI will announce a new FACA board related to public/private partnerships.
- Secretary Zinke is out on personal leave at his home in Montana. The Secretary will return on Monday.

###

--  
Alex Hinson

Deputy Press Secretary  
Department of the Interior

<WH Daily Comms update 11-3.docx>

**To:** Hinson, Alex[alex\_hinson@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Jorjani, Daniel[daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov]; Laura Rigas[laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov]; Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Lawkowski, Gary  
**Sent:** 2017-09-11T12:42:14-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: \*News Alert\* Secretary Zinke joins 'Fox and Friends'  
**Received:** 2017-09-11T12:42:23-04:00

Thanks for sending these around. Just a friendly reminder, please avoid sending around materials that originate from the RNC. Something like this does not automatically create a compliance problem, however, it could raise Hatch Act issues if it links back to a fundraising page, and could raise appearance questions if it were to show up in a FOIA or other public context.

As practical guidance, I would suggest copying links from the original sources rather than RNC clips, and, failing that, scrubbing any RNC references or links.

Let me know if this makes sense. Thanks again for your hard work keeping us all informed.

Sincerely,

*Gary Lawkowski*  
*Counselor to the Solicitor*  
*Department of the Interior*  
[Gary.Lawkowski@sol.doi.gov](mailto:Gary.Lawkowski@sol.doi.gov)  
202-208-7340

On Mon, Sep 11, 2017 at 8:37 AM, Hinson, Alex <[alex\\_hinson@ios.doi.gov](mailto:alex_hinson@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

**[Fox News: Secretary Zinke joins 'Fox and Friends'](#)**

**AINSLEY EARHARDT:** the white house kicking in to high gear to see the state through this latest hurricane disaster.

**STEVE DOOCY:** joining us with more is u.s. secretary of the interior and retired navy seal commander ryan zinke. mr. secretary, thank you very much for joining us. i'm sure this was one of the big topics on the table at camp david when the president convened his cabinet there over the weekend.

**INTERIOR SECRETARY RYAN ZINKE:** well, that was a big topic. and leave no neighborhood behind. we have devastation starting with the territories. virgin islands got especially hit. and listening earlier about the power. likely a rebuild. we're not sure that we can repair the power grid in the virgin islands. of course today we will look at the assessment of the keys as it goes up. fortunately, it looks like tampa and the you were part of florida was not hit as hard as we thought. but, certainly, the no neighborhood behind. and let's not forget about the forest fires out west. still a lot of communities under threat. very few fires are contained to the point where we have to keep our eye off the ball.

**BRIAN KILMEADE:** rushing \$221 million to the u.s. virgin islands because a lot of them

they were saying over the weekend they feel kind of ignored. that's going to change once you get them that money as well as puerto rico. but, i also noticed that you're in shanksville. you are on shanksville on 9/11. before you became congressman and secretary, you were in the military. i am just curious, mr. secretary, where were you on 9/11 and what are your thoughts today 16 years later?

**SEC. ZINKE:** well, i was actually a seal instructor on 9/11. and i saw when the plane hit, like many americans, that america is going to change and we have changed. and that you are right, today, the vice president is in shanksville. we're visiting the flight 93 national monument. and i can tell you they are heroes. this is an example of america sticking together. you know, and likely the actions of the passengers and crew of flight 93 prevented, you know, probably a strike on the capitol. we had a joint session with congress at the time. they are heroes. and this monument, if you have not seen it, you know, drive out and take a look at it it's magnificently designed and magnificently done. an example of public private partnerships. national system working together to commemorate american heroes.

**EARHARDT:** mr. secretary, you and the vice president will be there today. what can we expect? what are you going to be doing there?

**SEC. ZINKE:** well, today is really a memorial for the 40 passengers. we're going to talk to the families here. we were here yesterday dedicating, shovels, monument. really reflecting on how great this country is. the sacrifices we have made and also talking about the change that 9/11 brought to all americans.

**KILMEADE:** do you worry 100 years from now someone is going to take that memorial down like they are trying remake our memorials today?

**SEC. ZINKE:** i'm one that believes, you know that we should learn from his industry. and i think our monuments are a part of our country's history. we can learn from it. since we don't put up statues of jesus, everyone is going to fall morally short. i think reflecting on our history both good and bad is a powerful statement and part of our d.n.a. i'm an advocate, again, of learning from our monuments. understanding the period they were made but also we live in a great country and monuments are not republican, democrat, independent. monuments are a tribute to all of us.

**DOOCY:** and the observances there in shanksville start just a couple of hours from right now. mr. secretary, thank you very much for joining us on this september the 11th, 16 years later.

**EARHARDT:** thank you. thanks for being there with those families.

**SEC. ZINKE:** thank you very much.

**Disclaimer:** The Republican National Committee provided the above article as a service to its employees and other selected individuals. Any opinions expressed therein are those of the article's author and do not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of the RNC.

###

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Alex Hinson

Deputy Press Secretary  
Department of the Interior  
C: 202-641-5381

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*Gary Lawkowski*  
*Counselor to the Solicitor*  
*Department of the Interior*  
[Gary.Lawkowski@sol.doi.gov](mailto:Gary.Lawkowski@sol.doi.gov)  
202-208-7340

**To:** FOIA DMU Processing[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Fairman, Leah  
**Sent:** 2017-08-16T08:51:13-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: A Compilation of My "FOIA Glacier American Oversight" Label  
**Received:** 2017-08-16T08:52:00-04:00

Good morning,  
Some of the files contained in here listed as errors and could not be downloaded. Could you please send them separately? They were folder numbers 23, 32, and 9.

Thanks!

On Tue, Aug 15, 2017 at 5:47 PM, FOIA DMU Processing <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Hello,

Attached you will find a compilation of all the emails and attachments from my "FOIA Glacier American Oversight" label. There is one or multiple PDF files that contain the contents of the email, and corresponding zipped folders with attachments sorted by conversation, and notated in the PDF for reference. You can view them by simply clicking the "view" link below, or they can also be downloaded locally to your computer.

To open zip files, you can use the built in zipping utility or use a third party utility like WinZip.

If you need more assistance, please contact your local help desk.



\*Created with the FOIA DMU Processing Application\*

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Leah Fairman  
Department of the Interior  
Office of the Secretary, FOIA Office  
1849 C Street, NW, MS-7328  
Washington, D.C. 20240  
[Leah\\_Fairman@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Leah_Fairman@ios.doi.gov)  
(202) 513-0765 - phone  
(202) 565-1076 - direct line  
(202) 219-2374 - fax



**To:** DuBray, Daniel[[ddubray@blm.gov](mailto:ddubray@blm.gov)]  
**From:** Swift, Heather  
**Sent:** 2017-11-21T13:56:40-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: a question about BLM's FOIA practices  
**Received:** 2017-11-21T13:57:26-05:00

Thanks - perhaps worth noting how the previous admin changed FOIAs

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
[@DOIPressSec](mailto:@DOIPressSec)  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Tue, Nov 21, 2017 at 1:50 PM, DuBray, Daniel <[ddubray@blm.gov](mailto:ddubray@blm.gov)> wrote:

FYI. d

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** **Eilperin, Juliet** <[Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com](mailto:Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com)>  
**Date:** Tue, Nov 21, 2017 at 12:49 PM  
**Subject:** a question about BLM's FOIA practices  
**To:** "[ddubray@blm.gov](mailto:ddubray@blm.gov)" <[ddubray@blm.gov](mailto:ddubray@blm.gov)>, "[press@blm.gov](mailto:press@blm.gov)" <[press@blm.gov](mailto:press@blm.gov)>

Dear Dan, and the rest of the press team,

My colleague and I are considering writing a piece on how FOIA practices have changed under the new administration. I know that FOIA requests go to the head of the BLM's press office, and my understanding is that when Mike Nedd was serving as acting director, he asked whether he could personally review FOIA requests that mentioned him by name. Can you confirm that is the case, and is it accurate to say that this change in procedure did not happen? In addition, were there any other FOIA approval practices that have changed at BLM, and have the number of FOIA requests increased since Jan. 20, compared to past years?

Thanks, Juliet

Juliet Eilperin

Senior National Affairs Correspondent

Washington Post

[Juliet.eilperin@washpost.com](mailto:Juliet.eilperin@washpost.com)

(O) 202-334-7774

(C) (b) (6)

@eilperin

--

Dan DuBray  
Acting Assistant Director - Communications (WO-600)  
Director's Office (Room 5645)  
Bureau of Land Management  
Department of the Interior  
Washington, DC 20240  
Office: (202) 208-5207  
Twitter: @DuBray

**To:** Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** interior\_press@ios.doi.gov[interior\_press@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Eilperin, Juliet  
**Sent:** 2017-12-15T17:10:19-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** RE: a question about David Bernhardt attending weekly meetings in the six months leading up to his confirmation  
**Received:** 2017-12-15T17:10:32-05:00

Dear Heather,

Thanks so much. That's why I checked before running anything. It struck me as odd that he would have done that, given that he's well versed in all the department's legal and ethics policies.

Best, Juliet

---

**From:** Heather Swift [mailto:heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**Sent:** Friday, December 15, 2017 5:08 PM  
**To:** Eilperin, Juliet <Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com>  
**Cc:** interior\_press@ios.doi.gov  
**Subject:** Re: a question about David Bernhardt attending weekly meetings in the six months leading up to his confirmation

Juliet that's totally false. David attended none of the meetings before he was sworn in. It's a glitch in google calendars that once somebody is added to a recurring meeting it adds them for all occurrences.

Heather Swift  
Press Secretary  
Department of the Interior

On Dec 15, 2017, at 4:28 PM, Eilperin, Juliet <[Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com](mailto:Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com)> wrote:

Dear Press Team,

According to Downey Magallanes' schedule, which was recently released through a FOIA, David Bernhardt started attending the weekly acting assistant secretaries meeting starting Feb. 6. In his May 1, 2017 letter to the DOI ethics office, Mr. Bernhardt wrote, "Upon confirmation, I will withdraw from the partnership of Brownstein Hyatt Farber and Schreck, LLP, and all related entities." Given those two facts, I was hoping to check a couple of things.

1. Is it accurate that Mr. Bernhardt attended weekly meetings at Interior with other political appointees even though he was still employed by his law and lobbying firm?
2. How did he handle any issues that might have come up in those meetings, given the potential conflicts of interests that might have arisen?

Thanks so much, and I am reachable at all of the ways below. I want to give you time to respond, so let me know what you think would be doable, in terms of answering this.  
Juliet

Juliet Eilperin

Senior National Affairs Correspondent  
Washington Post  
[Juliet.eilperin@washpost.com](mailto:Juliet.eilperin@washpost.com)  
(O) 202-334-7774  
(C) (b) (6)  
@eilperin

**To:** Heather Swift[[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)]  
**From:** Bernhardt, David  
**Sent:** 2017-12-15T17:00:07-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: a question about David Bernhardt attending weekly meetings in the six months leading up to his confirmation  
**Received:** 2017-12-15T17:00:10-05:00

1. Is it accurate that Mr. Bernhardt attended weekly meetings at Interior with other political appointees even though he was still employed by his law and lobbying firm? No. David never attended any such meeting during his entire confirmation process.
2. How did he handle any issues that might have come up in those meetings, given the potential conflicts of interests that might have arisen. HE DID NOT PARTICIPATE IN ANY SUCH MEETINGS.

On Fri, Dec 15, 2017 at 4:54 PM, Heather Swift <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Heather Swift  
Press Secretary  
Department of the Interior

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Eilperin, Juliet" <[Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com](mailto:Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com)>  
**Date:** December 15, 2017 at 4:28:30 PM EST  
**To:** "[interior\\_press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:interior_press@ios.doi.gov)" <[interior\\_press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:interior_press@ios.doi.gov)>, "Swift, Heather" <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Subject:** a question about David Bernhardt attending weekly meetings in the six months leading up to his confirmation

Dear Press Team,

According to Downey Magallanes' schedule, which was recently released through a FOIA, David Bernhardt started attending the weekly acting assistant secretaries meeting starting Feb. 6. In his May 1, 2017 letter to the DOI ethics office, Mr. Bernhardt wrote, "Upon confirmation, I will withdraw from the partnership of Brownstein Hyatt Farber and Schreck, LLP, and all related entities." Given those two facts, I was hoping to check a couple of things.

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2. How did he handle any issues that might have come up in those meetings, given the potential conflicts of interests that might have arisen?

Thanks so much, and I am reachable at all of the ways below. I want to give you time to respond, so let me know what you think would be doable, in terms of answering this.

Juliet

Juliet Eilperin

Senior National Affairs Correspondent

Washington Post

[Juliet.eilperin@washpost.com](mailto:Juliet.eilperin@washpost.com)

(O) 202-334-7774

(C) (b) (6)

@eilperin

--

David Longly Bernhardt  
Deputy Secretary  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20240  
(202) 208-6291

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**To:** Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Bernhardt, David  
**Sent:** 2017-12-15T16:57:20-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: a question about David Bernhardt attending weekly meetings in the six months leading up to his confirmation  
**Received:** 2017-12-15T16:57:27-05:00

I NEVER ATTENDED ANY SUCH MEETINGS AND I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT SHE IS TALKING ABOUT. I WAS ONLY IN THE BUILDING A FEW TIMES DURING MY ENTIRE CONFIRMATION PROCESS.

On Fri, Dec 15, 2017 at 4:54 PM, Heather Swift <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Heather Swift  
Press Secretary  
Department of the Interior

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Eilperin, Juliet" <[Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com](mailto:Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com)>  
**Date:** December 15, 2017 at 4:28:30 PM EST  
**To:** "[interior\\_press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:interior_press@ios.doi.gov)" <[interior\\_press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:interior_press@ios.doi.gov)>, "Swift, Heather" <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Subject:** a question about David Bernhardt attending weekly meetings in the six months leading up to his confirmation

Dear Press Team,

According to Downey Magallanes' schedule, which was recently released through a FOIA, David Bernhardt started attending the weekly acting assistant secretaries meeting starting Feb. 6. In his May 1, 2017 letter to the DOI ethics office, Mr. Bernhardt wrote, "Upon confirmation, I will withdraw from the partnership of Brownstein Hyatt Farber and Schreck, LLP, and all related entities." Given those two facts, I was hoping to check a couple of things.

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2. How did he handle any issues that might have come up in those meetings, given the potential conflicts of interests that might have arisen?

Thanks so much, and I am reachable at all of the ways below. I want to give you time to respond, so let me know what you think would be doable, in terms of answering this.

Juliet

Juliet Eilperin

Senior National Affairs Correspondent

Washington Post

[Juliet.eilperin@washpost.com](mailto:Juliet.eilperin@washpost.com)

(O) 202-334-7774

(C)(b) (6)

@eilperin

--

David Longly Bernhardt  
Deputy Secretary  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20240  
(202) 208-6291

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**To:** Slayton, April[[april\\_slayton@nps.gov](mailto:april_slayton@nps.gov)]  
**Cc:** Barnum, Jeremy[[jeremy\\_barnum@nps.gov](mailto:jeremy_barnum@nps.gov)]; Paul Ross[[Paul\\_Ross@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Paul_Ross@ios.doi.gov)]  
**From:** Heather Swift  
**Sent:** 2017-12-12T16:06:37-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: a question about how NPS is handling FOIA procedures  
**Received:** 2017-12-12T16:06:47-05:00

April can you ring me on my cell? (b) (6)

Heather Swift  
Press Secretary  
Department of the Interior

On Dec 12, 2017, at 4:04 PM, Slayton, April <[april\\_slayton@nps.gov](mailto:april_slayton@nps.gov)> wrote:

Hi Heather and Paul,  
Since Jeremy is off this afternoon, I wanted to follow up and be sure you're comfortable with this proposed response. I'd like to reply before I have to head out for a meeting at 4:30.  
Thanks!

--

April Slayton  
Assistant Director for Communications  
National Park Service  
Visit us at [www.nps.gov](http://www.nps.gov)

On Tue, Dec 12, 2017 at 12:43 PM, Barnum, Jeremy <[jeremy\\_barnum@nps.gov](mailto:jeremy_barnum@nps.gov)> wrote:

Hi Heather,

We propose responding to the reporter with the below. Let us know if you have any concerns. I'm out of the office this afternoon but can be reached by mobile at (202) 617-7973.

"The National Park Service has not been asked to change its FOIA procedures nor is the Department of the Interior asking to review responses to all NPS FOIA requests.

The Office of the Secretary FOIA office is coordinating and processing responses to all FOIA requests related to the Secretary of the Interior's review of national monuments as the review deals with multiple bureaus in the Department of the Interior.

It is not unusual for the Department's FOIA office to coordinate the responses on FOIA requests involving requests for information that cross multiple bureaus."

Thanks!

Jeremy K. Barnum  
Acting Chief of Public Affairs  
National Park Service  
Office: (202) 513-7262



On Mon, Dec 11, 2017 at 5:23 PM, April Slayton <[april\\_slayton@nps.gov](mailto:april_slayton@nps.gov)> wrote:

Hi Heather - can Jeremy and I connect with you tomorrow on these questions?  
Thanks!

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Eilperin, Juliet" <[Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com](mailto:Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com)>  
**Date:** December 11, 2017 at 5:15:02 PM EST  
**To:** "[April\\_Slayton@nps.gov](mailto:April_Slayton@nps.gov)" <[April\\_Slayton@nps.gov](mailto:April_Slayton@nps.gov)>, "Grandoni, Dino" <[Dino.Grandoni@washpost.com](mailto:Dino.Grandoni@washpost.com)>, "Swift, Heather" <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Subject:** a question about how NPS is handling FOIA procedures

Dear April,

A week and a half ago I had asked Heather and her colleagues if the Secretary's office had instituted new procedures for processing FOIA requests, since requests regarding the monuments review process were being referred to the Secretary's office. (I've pasted an example of a response from a regional NPS officer below, and I have attached an example of a recent letter along the same lines, from a BLM official). She said this was false, and that you could speak to your FOIA procedures, so I thought I would check with you and loop in my colleague Dino Grandoni, who is also interested in this topic.

I am cc'ing Heather on this both to make sure she's aware of this,

and to see if there's a way to get a department-wide figure for the rise in the number of total FOIA requests the department is receiving, since I am sure it is considerable.

Thanks, and a response tomorrow is fine—I know that it is late in the day.

Best, Juliet

Juliet Eilperin

Senior National Affairs Correspondent

Washington Post

[Juliet.eilperin@washpost.com](mailto:Juliet.eilperin@washpost.com)

(O) 202-334-7774

(C) (b) (6)

@eilperin

**Subject:** EFTS\_18\_00005 -- KAWW

Dear Ms. Dillon,

We have been notified that all requests relating to the monument designation review issue will be processed by the Department of the Interior Office of the Secretary (OS) FOIA Office. Accordingly, we have transferred all the remaining, responsive records for your request to their office. They will issue a final response to your request once they have completed the processing those records. In the meantime you can contact their FOIA Officer at:

Clarice Julka; OS FOIA Officer

MS-7328, MIB

[1849 C Street, NW\[maps.google.com\]](https://www.google.com/maps/place/1849+C+Street,+NW)

[Washington, DC 20240\[maps.google.com\]](#)

Phone: (202) 513-0765

Fax: (202) 219-2374

E-Mail: [osfoia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov)

Sincerely,

Ellen Carlson

Ellen Carlson

Legislative Affairs Specialist

National Park Service

Northeast Region

[15 State Street](#)

[Boston, MA 02109](#)

[Ph. 617.223.5048](#)

Cell. 617.834.2626

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**From:** Heather Swift [[mailto:heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)]

**Sent:** Friday, December 01, 2017 6:41 PM

**To:** Eilperin, Juliet <[Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com](mailto:Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com)>

**Cc:** [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

**Subject:** Re: checking in on a few fronts

1. We have no new announcements on national monuments.
2. Checked back with exec sec/solicitors. Expect something soon. It got lost in the holiday hustle.
3. That is wholly false. NPS can speak to their FOIA procedures.
4. The Department has no new announcements on national monuments.

Heather Swift

Press Secretary

Department of the Interior

On Dec 1, 2017, at 1:10 PM, Eilperin, Juliet <[Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com](mailto:Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com)> wrote:

Dear All,

I had a few questions for different stories, so I thought it's easiest if I put them in one email.

1. First, I just published this piece about how USDA confirmed that the department did not specifically recommend any Forest Land be removed from Bears Ears or four other national monuments under review, and I just wanted to see if DOI wanted to comment:  
<http://wapo.st/2Br1U3Q>
2. Second, I'd love to get those stats, if it's possible, on how the rate of FOIA requests has increased since January, compared to the year before.
3. Three, it appears that regional NPS FOIA officers are now saying that all FOIA requests are being processed through the Office of the Secretary, which is a change from just a couple of weeks ago. Is it possible to get a comment on why this policy shift occurred?
4. Four, if you have any further comments on the draft documents on Bears Ears and Grand

Staircase-Escalante, now that other outlets have reported on this, let me know.

I am best reached via email or cell, (b) (6)

Thanks, Juliet

Juliet Eilperin

Senior National Affairs Correspondent

Washington Post

[Juliet.eilperin@washpost.com](mailto:Juliet.eilperin@washpost.com)

(O) 202-334-7774

(C)(b) (6)

@eilperin

**To:** April Slayton[[april\\_slayton@nps.gov](mailto:april_slayton@nps.gov)]  
**Cc:** Jeremy Barnum[[jeremy\\_barnum@nps.gov](mailto:jeremy_barnum@nps.gov)]; Paul Ross[[Paul\\_Ross@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Paul_Ross@ios.doi.gov)]  
**From:** Swift, Heather  
**Sent:** 2017-12-11T18:38:12-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: a question about how NPS is handling FOIA procedures  
**Received:** 2017-12-11T18:38:59-05:00

Yes please.

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
[@DOIPressSec](mailto:@DOIPressSec)  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Mon, Dec 11, 2017 at 5:23 PM, April Slayton <[april\\_slayton@nps.gov](mailto:april_slayton@nps.gov)> wrote:

Hi Heather - can Jeremy and I connect with you tomorrow on these questions? Thanks!

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Eilperin, Juliet" <[Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com](mailto:Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com)>  
**Date:** December 11, 2017 at 5:15:02 PM EST  
**To:** "[April\\_Slayton@nps.gov](mailto:April_Slayton@nps.gov)" <[April\\_Slayton@nps.gov](mailto:April_Slayton@nps.gov)>, "Grandoni, Dino" <[Dino.Grandoni@washpost.com](mailto:Dino.Grandoni@washpost.com)>, "Swift, Heather" <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Subject:** a question about how NPS is handling FOIA procedures

Dear April,

A week and a half ago I had asked Heather and her colleagues if the Secretary's office had instituted new procedures for processing FOIA requests, since requests regarding the monuments review process were being referred to the Secretary's office. (I've pasted an example of a response from a regional NPS officer below, and I have attached an example of a recent letter along the same lines, from a BLM official). She said this was false, and that you could speak to your FOIA procedures, so I thought I would check with you and loop in my colleague Dino Grandoni, who is also interested in this topic.

I am cc'ing Heather on this both to make sure she's aware of this, and to see if

there's a way to get a department-wide figure for the rise in the number of total FOIA requests the department is receiving, since I am sure it is considerable.

Thanks, and a response tomorrow is fine—I know that it is late in the day.

Best, Juliet

Juliet Eilperin

Senior National Affairs Correspondent

Washington Post

[Juliet.eilperin@washpost.com](mailto:Juliet.eilperin@washpost.com)

(O) 202-334-7774

(C) (b) (6)

@eilperin

**Subject:** EFTS\_18\_00005 -- KAWW

Dear Ms. Dillon,

We have been notified that all requests relating to the monument designation review issue will be processed by the Department of the Interior Office of the Secretary (OS) FOIA Office. Accordingly, we have transferred all the remaining, responsive records for your request to their office. They will issue a final response to your request once they have completed the processing those records. In the meantime you can contact their FOIA Officer at:

Clarice Julka; OS FOIA Officer

MS-7328, MIB

[1849 C Street, NW\[maps.google.com\]](https://maps.google.com)

[Washington, DC 20240\[maps.google.com\]](https://maps.google.com)

Phone: (202) 513-0765



Fax: (202) 219-2374

E-Mail: [osfoia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov)

Sincerely,

Ellen Carlson

Ellen Carlson

Legislative Affairs Specialist

National Park Service

Northeast Region

15 State Street

Boston, MA 02109

Ph. 617.223.5048

Cell. 617.834.2626

---

**From:** Heather Swift [[mailto:heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)]  
**Sent:** Friday, December 01, 2017 6:41 PM  
**To:** Eilperin, Juliet <[Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com](mailto:Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com)>  
**Cc:** [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)  
**Subject:** Re: checking in on a few fronts

1. We have no new announcements on national monuments.
2. Checked back with exec sec/solicitors. Expect something soon. It got lost in the holiday hustle.
3. That is wholly false. NPS can speak to their FOIA procedures.
4. The Department has no new announcements on national monuments.

Heather Swift

Press Secretary

Department of the Interior

On Dec 1, 2017, at 1:10 PM, Eilperin, Juliet <[Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com](mailto:Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com)> wrote:

Dear All,

I had a few questions for different stories, so I thought it's easiest if I put them in one email.

1. First, I just published this piece about how USDA confirmed that the department did not specifically recommend any Forest Land be removed from Bears Ears or four other national monuments under review, and I just wanted to see if DOI wanted to comment: <http://wapo.st/2Br1U3Q>
2. Second, I'd love to get those stats, if it's possible, on how the rate of FOIA requests has increased since January, compared to the year before.
3. Three, it appears that regional NPS FOIA officers are now saying that all FOIA requests are being processed through the Office of the Secretary, which is a change from just a couple of weeks ago. Is it possible to get a comment on why this policy shift occurred?
4. Four, if you have any further comments on the draft documents on Bears Ears and Grand Staircase-Escalante, now that other outlets have reported on this, let me know.

I am best reached via email or cell, (b) (6).

Thanks, Juliet

Juliet Eilperin

Senior National Affairs Correspondent

Washington Post

[Juliet.eilperin@washpost.com](mailto:Juliet.eilperin@washpost.com)

(O) 202-334-7774

(C) (b) (6)

@eilperin

**To:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** interior\_press@ios.doi.gov[interior\_press@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Eilperin, Juliet  
**Sent:** 2017-12-11T12:24:27-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** RE: a question related to Secretary Zinke's Channel Islands trip  
**Received:** 2017-12-11T12:25:29-05:00

Also, I had one other minor question related to this, which I wanted to clarify: it has been reported that Beatrice Walder is the Secretary's aunt, but my understanding is that she's Mrs. Zinke's aunt. Can you just confirm that my understanding is correct?

Thanks, Juliet

**From:** Swift, Heather [mailto:heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 11, 2017 9:07 AM  
**To:** Eilperin, Juliet <Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com>  
**Cc:** interior\_press@ios.doi.gov  
**Subject:** Re: a question related to Secretary Zinke's Channel Islands trip

What do you mean by this -> especially since in one of the emails, the NPS superintendent seems to indicate that he had heard about Zinke's plans to address the conservative group, and may have extended the invitation to visit after learning about this commitment.

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Mon, Dec 11, 2017 at 9:05 AM, Eilperin, Juliet <[Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com](mailto:Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com)> wrote:

Dear Press Team,

An advocacy group has shared some documents from a FOIA request that concern the Secretary's April 17-18 trip to the Channel Island. The documents show that the federal government incurred extra government expense of more than \$2,000 because the boat normally sails from Ventura Harbor. The reason for the change in harbor appears to be due to the fact that the Secretary chose to address the Young America's Foundation town hall in Santa Barbara.

I plan to post an item of this today (most likely, in the late morning), but I wanted to check in with you all first, especially since in one of the emails, the NPS superintendent seems to indicate that he had heard about Zinke's plans to address the conservative group, and may have extended the invitation to visit after learning about this commitment. So I would like a little more clarity on that.

Thanks so much. I am reachable all of the usual ways, below.

Juliet

Juliet Eilperin  
Senior National Affairs Correspondent  
Washington Post  
[Juliet.eilperin@washpost.com](mailto:Juliet.eilperin@washpost.com)

(O) 202-334-7774

(C) (b) (6)

@eilperin

**To:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** interior\_press@ios.doi.gov[interior\_press@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Eilperin, Juliet  
**Sent:** 2017-12-11T09:19:07-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** RE: a question related to Secretary Zinke's Channel Islands trip  
**Received:** 2017-12-11T09:19:21-05:00

There is an email on March 20 from Stephanie Burkhart (associate regional director, communications, oversight and analysis for NPS Pacific West Region) to NPS press staff in DC which says:

“Russell Galipeau (CHIS superintendent) heard from on-the-ground sources that SOI Zinke will be speaking to the Republican Club in Santa Barbara Apr. 17. Rumor has it that his staff asked NOAA to take him out to the islands. CHIS park staff are more than happy to take him out. Have you heard anything about this? Thanks!”

Now, this seems to indicate that it was the Secretary’s staff that requested the trip, after booking the speaking event, but I just wanted to make sure it was not the other way around. Is that clearer? Thanks.

**From:** Swift, Heather [mailto:heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 11, 2017 9:07 AM  
**To:** Eilperin, Juliet <Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com>  
**Cc:** interior\_press@ios.doi.gov  
**Subject:** Re: a question related to Secretary Zinke's Channel Islands trip

What do you mean by this -> especially since in one of the emails, the NPS superintendent seems to indicate that he had heard about Zinke’s plans to address the conservative group, and may have extended the invitation to visit after learning about this commitment.

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Mon, Dec 11, 2017 at 9:05 AM, Eilperin, Juliet <[Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com](mailto:Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com)> wrote:

Dear Press Team,

An advocacy group has shared some documents from a FOIA request that concern the Secretary’s April 17-18 trip to the Channel Island. The documents show that the federal government incurred extra government expense of more than \$2,000 because the boat normally sails from Ventura Harbor. The reason for the change in harbor appears to be due to the fact that the Secretary chose to address the Young America's Foundation town hall in Santa Barbara.

I plan to post an item of this today (most likely, in the late morning), but I wanted to check in with you all first, especially since in one of the emails, the NPS superintendent seems to indicate that he had heard about Zinke’s plans to address the conservative group, and may have extended the invitation to visit after learning about this commitment. So I would like a little more clarity on that.

Thanks so much. I am reachable all of the usual ways, below.  
Juliet

Juliet Eilperin  
Senior National Affairs Correspondent  
Washington Post  
[Juliet.eilperin@washpost.com](mailto:Juliet.eilperin@washpost.com)  
(O) 202-334-7774  
(C) (b) (6)  
@eilperin

**To:** Darling, Nedra[nedra\_darling@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** John Tahsuda[john.tahsuda@bia.gov]; Charles Addington[Charles.Addington@bia.gov]; Bryan Rice[Bryan.Rice@bia.gov]; Shepard, Eric[eric.shepard@sol.doi.gov]; Bryan Hudson[bryan.hudson@sol.doi.gov]; Laura Rigas[laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov]; Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]; Quimby, Frank J[Frank\_Quimby@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Thompson, Jason  
**Sent:** 2017-11-01T09:47:15-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: ABC News Responses: Missing Person HeavyRunner  
**Received:** 2017-11-01T09:47:21-04:00

So do we Nedra, thank you for your help.  
JT

Jason Thompson  
Assistant Director  
Office of Justice Services

On Wed, Nov 1, 2017 at 9:46 AM, Darling, Nedra <[nedra\\_darling@ios.doi.gov](mailto:nedra_darling@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Hi -

Here is the the ABC News story about the Missing Woman at Blackfeet. The reporter is going to do a follow up story and I will start working with him soon.

Thank you for all your work with me on getting the responses together and providing the information that we could for the public. I believe it turned out much better than I thought it initially would and that is do to our team work which is much appreciated!

These is a hard one and I hope we get a break soon and bring Ashley home.  
Take care,  
Nedra

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Simon, Evan N. <[Evan.N.Simon@abc.com](mailto:Evan.N.Simon@abc.com)>  
**Date:** Wed, Nov 1, 2017 at 9:09 AM  
**Subject:** RE: ABC News Responses: Missing Person HeavyRunner  
**To:** Nedra Darling <[nedra\\_darling@ios.doi.gov](mailto:nedra_darling@ios.doi.gov)>

Hi Nedra,

Our story went live this morning. See the link below:



<http://abcnews.go.com/US/familys-desperate-search-missing-young-woman-highlights-questions/story?id=50737963>

For your awareness, I have put in a FOIA request for the case file related to Ashley's disappearance.  
Looking forward to our communications going forward as I continue reporting on this story.

Best,

Evan

---

**From:** Simon, Evan N.

**Sent:** Monday, October 30, 2017 8:47 AM

**To:** Nedra Darling <[nedra\\_darling@ios.doi.gov](mailto:nedra_darling@ios.doi.gov)>

**Subject:** Re: ABC News Responses: Missing Person HeavyRunner

Thank you so much for your responses, Nedra. I'll be sure to share the story with you as soon as its published.

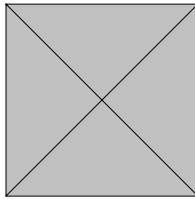
**To:** Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Magallanes, Downey[downey\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Jorjani, Daniel  
**Sent:** 2017-12-12T14:56:51-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: any issue with this response?  
**Received:** 2017-12-12T14:57:38-05:00

(b) (5), but defer entirely to you on Comms strategy. If you respond, here are a couple of edits -

"The National Park Service has not been asked to change its FOIA procedures nor is the Department of the Interior asking to review responses to all NPS FOIA requests.

The Office of the Secretary FOIA office is coordinating and processing responses to all FOIA requests related to the Secretary of the Interior's review of national monuments as the review deals with multiple bureaus in the Department of the Interior **and is the subject of ongoing litigation.**

It is not unusual, **and it is even prudent,** for the Department's FOIA office to coordinate the responses on FOIA requests involving requests for information that cross multiple bureaus **especially when those requests relate to matters that are in litigation or may become the subject of litigation."**



**Daniel H. Jorjani**  
Principal Deputy Solicitor  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
Main Interior Building, Suite 6356  
☎ •202-219-3861 (Voice)  
•202-706-9018 (Cell)  
•[daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov](mailto:daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov)

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On Tue, Dec 12, 2017 at 2:06 PM, Heather Swift <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Here is the email from WP

1. Three, it appears that regional NPS FOIA officers are now saying that all FOIA requests are being processed through the Office of the Secretary, which is a change from just a couple of weeks ago. Is it possible to get a comment on why this policy shift occurred?

Heather Swift  
Press Secretary  
Department of the Interior

On Dec 12, 2017, at 1:44 PM, Magallanes, Downey <[downey\\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov](mailto:downey_magallanes@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Adding Dan

On Tue, Dec 12, 2017 at 1:03 PM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Washington Post asking why DOI is reviewing NPS FOIAs. NPS already told them that's not happening. WP asked about a monument FOIA that DOI had to review. Below is the proposed response.

"The National Park Service has not been asked to change its FOIA procedures nor is the Department of the Interior asking to review responses to all NPS FOIA requests.

The Office of the Secretary FOIA office is coordinating and processing responses to all FOIA requests related to the Secretary of the Interior's review of national monuments as the review deals with multiple bureaus in the Department of the Interior.

It is not unusual for the Department's FOIA office to coordinate the responses on FOIA requests involving requests for information that cross multiple bureaus."

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

--

Downey Magallanes  
Deputy Chief of Staff for Policy  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
[downey\\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov](mailto:downey_magallanes@ios.doi.gov)  
202-706-9199

**To:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Downey Magallanes  
**Sent:** 2017-12-12T13:26:55-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: any issue with this response?  
**Received:** 2017-12-12T13:34:08-05:00

Let's discuss

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 12, 2017, at 1:04 PM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Washington Post asking why DOI is reviewing NPS FOIAs. NPS already told them that's not happening. WP asked about a monument FOIA that DOI had to review. Below is the proposed response.

"The National Park Service has not been asked to change its FOIA procedures nor is the Department of the Interior asking to review responses to all NPS FOIA requests.

The Office of the Secretary FOIA office is coordinating and processing responses to all FOIA requests related to the Secretary of the Interior's review of national monuments as the review deals with multiple bureaus in the Department of the Interior.

It is not unusual for the Department's FOIA office to coordinate the responses on FOIA requests involving requests for information that cross multiple bureaus."

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

**To:** OS, OS FOIA[osfoia@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Swift, Heather  
**Sent:** 2017-10-20T09:58:33-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: attached FOIA request 17-00617  
**Received:** 2017-10-20T09:59:20-04:00

no

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Fri, Oct 20, 2017 at 9:55 AM, OS, OS FOIA <[osfoia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Thanks. Just to make sure, do you have any other records that could be responsive to this request?

Thanks,

v/r  
Clarice

On Fri, Oct 20, 2017 at 9:52 AM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

There was no prepared speech.

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Fri, Oct 20, 2017 at 8:48 AM, OS, OS FOIA <[osfoia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Hello,  
I've attached a FOIA request we received several months ago. We had reached out to Shandria in your office and she said you may have records. Please let us know asap since the requester has filed a lawsuit regarding this request.

Thanks,

v/r  
Clarice Julka

--

Department of the Interior  
Office of the Secretary, FOIA Office  
[1849 C Street, NW](#), MS-7328  
Washington, D.C. 20240  
[os\\_foia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:os_foia@ios.doi.gov)  
(202) 513-0765 - phone  
(202) 219-2374 - fax

--

Department of the Interior  
Office of the Secretary, FOIA Office  
[1849 C Street, NW](#), MS-7328  
Washington, D.C. 20240  
[os\\_foia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:os_foia@ios.doi.gov)  
(202) 513-0765 - phone  
(202) 219-2374 - fax

**To:** Cameron, Scott[scott\_cameron@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Daniel Jorjani[daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov]; Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]; Joshua Campbell[joshua.campbell@sol.doi.gov]  
**From:** Howke, Steven  
**Sent:** 2017-12-08T16:28:48-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: BuzzFeed News: Status of August review of \$100K+ grants  
**Received:** 2017-12-08T16:29:18-05:00

Heather,  
I concur with the earlier comments.

Thanks,

Steve Howke

On Fri, Dec 8, 2017 at 12:14 PM, Cameron, Scott <[scott\\_cameron@ios.doi.gov](mailto:scott_cameron@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Heather's characterization is correct.

Thanks,  
Scott  
Scott J. Cameron  
Acting Assistant Secretary for Policy, Management and Budget  
Office of the Secretary of the Interior  
Desk 202 208 4242  
Cell 202 706 9031

On Fri, Dec 8, 2017 at 11:43 AM, Daniel Jorjani <[daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov](mailto:daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov)> wrote:

As it involves a grant, I'd recommend that you run the proposed past Scott Cameron and Steven Howke, CC'd.

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 8, 2017, at 11:35 AM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Question: is it accurate to say we have nothing new to announce on the ongoing review, and direct them to my previous statement -> "The Trump Administration is dedicated to responsibly using taxpayer dollars and that includes the billions of dollars in grants that are doled out every year by the Department of the Interior. In order to ensure the Department is using tax dollars in a way that advances the Department's mission and fulfills the roles mandated by Congress, in April the Department began reviewing grants and cooperative partnerships that exceed \$100,000. As such, the \$1,000,000 funding agreement was put on hold."

-  
Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

As I mentioned on your office voicemail, I'm a science reporter at BuzzFeed News. I'm writing to enquire about the Aug. 18 request by Glenda Owens at OSMRE, asking the NAS to halt a study, S16AC20034, citing an agency review of grants of more than \$100,000 in funding.

Can you update us on the status of this review? Has it been started, completed, or is underway in any fashion? Is there anyone at the agency who can explain how the review is structured? We wonder a) how many review sessions have been held b) who is doing the reviewing and c) how many studies are included in this review.

We recently received a FOIA response on this topic from your agency, and are planning a story on the review request. It would be great to get any update on its status and the questions I mentioned (or whatever else you think noteworthy on the topic) before the end of the work week.

Thanks for any help,

Dan Vergano  
BuzzFeed News  
[202 629 4563](tel:2026294563)

**Dan Vergano** | Science Desk (DC) | [202 629 4563](tel:2026294563)  
**BuzzFeed News**  
[1630 Connecticut Ave. 7th Floor, Washington DC 20009](https://www.buzzfeednews.com/)  
Public PGP Key -- <http://tinyurl.com/glfk7xo>  
Send secure tips -- [contact.buzzfeed.com](https://www.buzzfeed.com/contact)



**To:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Dan Vergano  
**Sent:** 2017-12-08T14:01:19-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: BuzzFeed News: Status of August review of \$100K+ grants  
**Received:** 2017-12-08T14:07:25-05:00

Thanks again. Dan

**Dan Vergano** | Science Desk (DC) | 202 629 4563  
**BuzzFeed News**  
1630 Connecticut Ave. 7th Floor, Washington DC 20009  
Public PGP Key -- <http://tinyurl.com/glfk7xo>  
Send secure tips -- [contact.buzzfeed.com](http://contact.buzzfeed.com)

On Fri, Dec 8, 2017 at 12:37 PM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

That is not accurate.

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Fri, Dec 8, 2017 at 12:34 PM, 'Dan Vergano' via Interior Press  
<[interior\\_press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:interior_press@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Great, just for the sake of accuracy, can you knock down these claims that this NAS study is the only grant or cooperative partnership under review? Or is that correct. Just like to tell readers one way or the other.  
Thanks again,

dan

**Dan Vergano** | Science Desk (DC) | [202 629 4563](tel:2026294563)  
**BuzzFeed News**  
1630 Connecticut Ave. 7th Floor, Washington DC 20009  
Public PGP Key -- <http://tinyurl.com/glfk7xo>  
Send secure tips -- [contact.buzzfeed.com](http://contact.buzzfeed.com)

On Fri, Dec 8, 2017 at 12:29 PM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

It's an ongoing process. We have nothing new to announce at this time.

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior

@DOIPressSec

[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Fri, Dec 8, 2017 at 12:29 PM, 'Dan Vergano' via Interior Press

<[interior\\_press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:interior_press@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Thanks very much -- there have been some suggestions the NAS study is the only one under this review. Is that correct? How far along is the review?

Thanks again,

Dan

**Dan Vergano** | Science Desk (DC) | [202 629 4563](tel:2026294563)

**BuzzFeed News**

[1630 Connecticut Ave. 7th Floor, Washington DC 20009](https://www.buzzfeednews.com/)

Public PGP Key -- <http://tinyurl.com/glfk7xo>

Send secure tips -- [contact.buzzfeed.com](https://www.buzzfeed.com/contact)

On Fri, Dec 8, 2017 at 12:15 PM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

"At this time we have no new announcements.

The Trump Administration is dedicated to responsibly using taxpayer dollars and that includes the billions of dollars in grants that are doled out every year by the Department of the Interior. In order to ensure the Department is using tax dollars in a way that advances the Department's mission and fulfills the roles mandated by Congress, in April the Department began reviewing grants and cooperative partnerships that exceed \$100,000. As such, the \$1,000,000 funding agreement was put on hold."

-

Heather Swift

Department of the Interior

@DOIPressSec

[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Fri, Dec 8, 2017 at 11:22 AM, 'Dan Vergano' via Interior Press

<[interior\\_press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:interior_press@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Ms. Swift,

We are still working on this story, and would like to give you an opportunity to comment for readers on any statement on the status of the review of the mountaintop mining study at NAS, as we requested last week.

Any help appreciated.

Dan

**Dan Vergano** | Science Desk (DC) | [202 629 4563](tel:2026294563)  
**BuzzFeed News**  
[1630 Connecticut Ave. 7th Floor, Washington DC 20009](https://www.buzzfeednews.com/)  
Public PGP Key -- <http://tinyurl.com/glfk7xo>  
Send secure tips -- [contact.buzzfeed.com](mailto:contact@buzzfeed.com)

On Wed, Nov 29, 2017 at 1:14 PM, Simpson, Moshay <[msimpson@osmre.gov](mailto:msimpson@osmre.gov)> wrote:

Hello Dan,  
I'm looping in DOI's press office so they can help you out as the questions you asked pertain to a Department-wide policy.  
Best regards,  
Moshay

---

**Moshay Simpson** | **Communications Chief**

Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement

Department of the Interior | [\(202\) 208-2565](tel:2022082565)

1849 C Street NW | Mail Stop 4526 | Washington, D.C. | 20240

On Wed, Nov 29, 2017 at 12:42 PM, Dan Vergano <[dan.vergano@buzzfeed.com](mailto:dan.vergano@buzzfeed.com)> wrote:

To: Public Affairs, OSMRE

As I mentioned on your office voicemail, I'm a science reporter at BuzzFeed News. I'm writing to enquire about the Aug. 18 request by Glenda Owens at OSMRE, asking the NAS to halt a study, S16AC20034, citing an agency review of grants of more than \$100,000 in funding.

Can you update us on the status of this review? Has it been started, completed, or is underway in any fashion? Is there anyone at the agency who can explain how the review is structured? We wonder a) how many review sessions have been held b) who is doing the reviewing and c) how many studies are included in this review.

We recently received a FOIA response on this topic from your agency, and are planning a story on the review request. It would be great to get any update on its status and the questions I mentioned (or whatever else you think noteworthy on the topic) before the end of the work week.

Thanks for any help,

Dan Vergano  
BuzzFeed News  
[202 629 4563](tel:2026294563)

**Dan Vergano** | Science Desk (DC) | [202 629 4563](tel:2026294563)

**BuzzFeed News**

[1630 Connecticut Ave. 7th Floor, Washington DC 20009](#)

Public PGP Key -- <http://tinyurl.com/glfk7xo>

Send secure tips -- [contact.buzzfeed.com](mailto:contact.buzzfeed.com)

**To:** Joshua Campbell[joshua.campbell@sol.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov];  
scott\_cameron@ios.doi.gov[scott\_cameron@ios.doi.gov];  
steven\_howke@ios.doi.gov[steven\_howke@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Daniel Jorjani  
**Sent:** 2017-12-08T12:02:01-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: BuzzFeed News: Status of August review of \$100K+ grants  
**Received:** 2017-12-08T12:02:09-05:00

Nothing to add to Josh's statement. Just adding Cameron and Howke - as the Department's Grants Czar - to keep in loop.

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 8, 2017, at 11:50 AM, Joshua Campbell <[joshua.campbell@sol.doi.gov](mailto:joshua.campbell@sol.doi.gov)> wrote:

Heather,

Your statement is correct and what you are planning to say is accurate. That particular grant is still under review and nothing about this matter has changed since the study was halted and placed within the overall, ongoing review.

As to anything else, I defer to Dan.

Best,

Josh

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 8, 2017, at 11:35 AM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Question: is it accurate to say we have nothing new to announce on the ongoing review, and direct them to my previous statement -> "The Trump Administration is dedicated to responsibly using taxpayer dollars and that includes the billions of dollars in grants that are doled out every year by the Department of the Interior. In order to ensure the Department is using tax dollars in a way that advances the Department's mission and fulfills the roles mandated by Congress, in April the Department began reviewing grants and cooperative partnerships that exceed \$100,000. As such, the \$1,000,000 funding agreement was put on hold."

-

Heather Swift

Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

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Thanks for any help,

Dan Vergano  
BuzzFeed News  
[202 629 4563](tel:2026294563)

**Dan Vergano** | Science Desk (DC) | [202 629 4563](tel:2026294563)  
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Send secure tips -- [contact.buzzfeed.com](http://contact.buzzfeed.com)

**To:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Joshua Campbell  
**Sent:** 2017-12-08T11:54:09-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: BuzzFeed News: Status of August review of \$100K+ grants  
**Received:** 2017-12-08T11:54:19-05:00

Lol!

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 8, 2017, at 11:52 AM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Thanks, stranger!

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

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Sent from my iPhone

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-

Heather Swift  
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@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

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BuzzFeed News  
[202 629 4563](tel:2026294563)

**Dan Vergano** | Science Desk (DC) | [202 629 4563](tel:2026294563)  
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Public PGP Key -- <http://tinyurl.com/glfk7xo>  
Send secure tips -- [contact.buzzfeed.com](http://contact.buzzfeed.com)



**To:** Interior Press[Interior\_Press@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Heather\_Swift@ios.doi.gov[Heather\_Swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Dan Vergano  
**Sent:** 2017-12-08T11:22:10-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: BuzzFeed News: Status of August review of \$100K+ grants  
**Received:** 2017-12-08T11:22:18-05:00

Ms. Swift,

We are still working on this story, and would like to give you an opportunity to comment for readers on any statement on the status of the review of the mountaintop mining study at NAS, as we requested last week.

Any help appreciated.

Dan

**Dan Vergano** | Science Desk (DC) | 202 629 4563  
**BuzzFeed News**  
1630 Connecticut Ave. 7th Floor, Washington DC 20009  
Public PGP Key -- <http://tinyurl.com/glfk7xo>  
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I'm looping in DOI's press office so they can help you out as the questions you asked pertain to a Department-wide policy.  
Best regards,  
Moshay

---

**Moshay Simpson** | **Communications Chief**

Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement

Department of the Interior | [\(202\) 208-2565](tel:(202)208-2565)

1849 C Street NW | Mail Stop 4526 | Washington, D.C. | 20240

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**Cc:** Heather\_Swift@ios.doi.gov[Heather\_Swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** 'Dan Vergano' via Interior Press  
**Sent:** 2017-12-08T11:22:10-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: BuzzFeed News: Status of August review of \$100K+ grants  
**Received:** 2017-12-08T11:22:15-05:00

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1630 Connecticut Ave. 7th Floor, Washington DC 20009  
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Moshay

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**Moshay Simpson** | **Communications Chief**

Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement

Department of the Interior | [\(202\) 208-2565](tel:(202)208-2565)

1849 C Street NW | Mail Stop 4526 | Washington, D.C. | 20240

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BuzzFeed News  
[202 629 4563](tel:2026294563)

**Dan Vergano** | Science Desk (DC) | [202 629 4563](tel:2026294563)  
**BuzzFeed News**  
[1630 Connecticut Ave. 7th Floor, Washington DC 20009](https://www.buzzfeednews.com/)  
Public PGP Key -- <http://tinyurl.com/glfk7xo>  
Send secure tips -- [contact.buzzfeed.com](mailto:tips@buzzfeed.com)

**To:** Laura Rigas[laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Newell, Russell[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Heather Swift  
**Sent:** 2017-08-17T15:44:52-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: can you send me an updated list of who's on the Executive Review Board  
**Received:** 2017-08-17T15:45:33-04:00

We've provided it to others in the past. Jorjani, Cason, and others. Can't recall the exact list right now.

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 17, 2017, at 1:36 PM, Laura Rigas <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Not sure if she will need to FOIA it or not. Thx!

Laura Keehner Rigas  
Communications Director  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 897-7022 cell  
@Interior

On Aug 17, 2017, at 3:05 PM, Newell, Russell <[russell\\_newell@ios.doi.gov](mailto:russell_newell@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

is this something we can/are willing to share?

Russell Newell  
Deputy Director of Communications  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 208-6232  
@Interior

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Eilperin, Juliet <[Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com](mailto:Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com)>  
**Date:** Thu, Aug 17, 2017 at 2:57 PM  
**Subject:** can you send me an updated list of who's on the Executive Review Board  
**To:** "[Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)" <[Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)>

To whom it may concern,

I'm just looking for a list of the current members of the Executive Review Board,  
and would appreciate if you could send that to me.

Thanks so much,

Juliet

Juliet Eilperin

Senior National Affairs Correspondent

Washington Post

[Juliet.eilperin@washpost.com](mailto:Juliet.eilperin@washpost.com)

(O) 202-334-7774

(C) (b) (5)

@eilperin

**To:** Quimby, Frank[frank\_quimby@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Heather Swift  
**Sent:** 2017-10-02T14:48:02-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Cape Wind FOIA's  
**Received:** 2017-10-02T14:48:10-04:00

Got it. Thanks.

Heather Swift  
Press Secretary  
Department of the Interior

On Oct 2, 2017, at 2:47 PM, Quimby, Frank <[frank\\_quimby@ios.doi.gov](mailto:frank_quimby@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

I am checking with BOEM now but I believe that it is a combination of lawsuits seeking to block the development (which Cape Wind will have to mount an expensive defense for) which in turn make it more difficult to secure funding for the project. Will send you specific details in a moment

On Mon, Oct 2, 2017 at 2:35 PM, Heather Swift <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Why did they ask though? No funding? Bad technology? Other?

Heather Swift  
Press Secretary  
Department of the Interior

On Oct 2, 2017, at 2:30 PM, Quimby, Frank <[frank\\_quimby@ios.doi.gov](mailto:frank_quimby@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

this allows them to stop the clock from ticking on their lease (terms of leases are for three or four years unless "suspended" to give them more time to gather funding, etc) and when they are ready they can petition to reactivate their lease and the clock resumes ticking...and they then can move forward if all their ducks are in a row

On Mon, Oct 2, 2017 at 2:27 PM, Heather Swift <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Why did they ask to suspend their lease?

Heather Swift  
Press Secretary  
Department of the Interior

On Oct 2, 2017, at 2:25 PM, Quimby, Frank <[frank\\_quimby@ios.doi.gov](mailto:frank_quimby@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

BOEM has received two FOIA requests regarding Cape Wind's (second) request to suspend it's lease. As such, we plan to post Cape Wind's letter to our website here: <https://www.boem.gov/Massachusetts-Cape-Wind/>. Our FOIA office and the SOL are okay with this approach as is A/S Kate Macgregor.

Per BOEM's FOIA office, if they receive a third FOIA request, we are required to post the letter to BOEM's website anyway, though it could be posted to our FOIA page instead of our Cape Wind page.

Any concerns from DOI?



**To:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Timothy Pearce  
**Sent:** 2017-08-09T13:54:48-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: CBD Accusation  
**Received:** 2017-08-09T13:54:56-04:00

Lol, lucky I'm a native New Mexican. Thanks.

On Wed, Aug 9, 2017 at 1:52 PM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Si

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Wed, Aug 9, 2017 at 1:50 PM, Timothy Pearce <[timothy@dailycallernewsfoundation.org](mailto:timothy@dailycallernewsfoundation.org)> wrote:

Is Zinke's schedule released at the end of ever month after all his interactions are recorded?

On Wed, Aug 9, 2017 at 1:47 PM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Please direct questions about litigation to DOJ.

Please find the Secretary's schedule here. <https://www.doi.gov/foia/os/secretarial-schedules>

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Wed, Aug 9, 2017 at 1:15 PM, Timothy Pearce <[timothy@dailycallernewsfoundation.org](mailto:timothy@dailycallernewsfoundation.org)> wrote:

Hey Heather,

I just received a press release saying the Center for Biological Diversity is suing the federal government after the Interior Department "refused to release public records about its review of national monuments and Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke's emails and schedule."

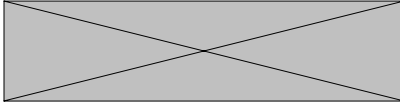
What's the Interior's side of the story here? Are the records not public or are they already available somewhere else?

I'm writing the story now and would appreciate a response ASAP if Interior wants to weigh in here. I can send you the press release of you want.

Best,

--

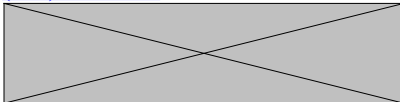
**Tim Pearce**  
Reporter  
[\(575\) 420-4736](tel:5754204736)



17th Street NW, Suite 900  
Washington DC 20036

--

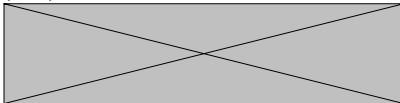
**Tim Pearce**  
Reporter  
[\(575\) 420-4736](tel:5754204736)



17th Street NW, Suite 900  
Washington DC 20036

--

**Tim Pearce**  
Reporter  
[\(575\) 420-4736](tel:5754204736)



17th Street NW, Suite 900  
Washington DC 20036

**To:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Dylan Brown  
**Sent:** 2017-07-26T11:32:24-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** RE: CBD lawsuit over coal meetings FOIA  
**Received:** 2017-07-26T11:32:34-04:00

Any idea who'd be best to contact over there?

**From:** Swift, Heather [mailto:heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 26, 2017 11:29 AM  
**To:** Dylan Brown <dbrown@eenews.net>  
**Cc:** interior\_press@ios.doi.gov  
**Subject:** Re: CBD lawsuit over coal meetings FOIA

Please direct all questions regarding litigation to the DOJ.

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Wed, Jul 26, 2017 at 11:27 AM, Dylan Brown <[dbrown@eenews.net](mailto:dbrown@eenews.net)> wrote:  
Hello!

Apologies for short notice in advance, but working on a quick story about this lawsuit filed by the Center for Biological Diversity over a FOIA request for records pertaining to meetings between Interior and coal companies about lifting the leasing moratorium. (Their press release is copied below.)

I am looking for any sort of statement you wish to provide. Also, I wanted to double check that neither Interior nor BLM has not responded officially to the March request?

My deadline is noon, but have some flexibility adding things in later so just let me know what you need.

Many thanks,  
Dylan Brown  
E&E News mining reporter  
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Energywire, Climatewire, Greenwire, E&E Daily, E&E News PM, E&ETV

For Immediate Release, July 26, 2017

Contact: William Snape, (202) 536-9351, [bsnape@biologicaldiversity.org](mailto:bsnape@biologicaldiversity.org)

### **Lawsuit Seeks Public Records on Trump Administration's Collusion With Coal Industry**

WASHINGTON— The Center for Biological Diversity today [sued](#) the Trump administration for failing to provide public records about closed-door meetings between the U.S. Department of the Interior and fossil-fuel industry executives over the reversal of the Obama administration's "pause" on coal extraction on federal public lands.

The Center filed a Freedom of Information Act request in March after Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke [revoked](#) an order issued by former Secretary Sally Jewell that halted most new coal-leasing activities pending the first comprehensive review of the program in almost 40 years. Neither the Interior Department nor the Bureau of Land Management have complied with the request for public records.

"If Trump and Zinke had nothing to hide, they'd comply with our simple request to release meeting records," said Bill Snape, senior counsel with the Center. "Instead the Trump administration continues to plot with fossil fuel executives in secret, making decisions that hurt public health and affect the future of all Americans."

Despite the coal program's drain on the federal treasury and its significant contribution to climate change, Zinke ended review of the leasing program on March 27 and directed the Interior Department and the BLM "to process coal lease applications and modifications expeditiously." His order followed numerous accounts of clandestine meetings between top Trump administration officials and coal industry lobbyists.

The Center's FOIA request seeks all communications between top Interior officials and the coal industry. The BLM has completely ignored the request and is now months overdue with a response as required by federal law. The Interior Department said it had received the "complex" request, but is now months late with a lawful response.

"Ryan Zinke has turned the Department of the Interior into the Department of Special Interests," said Snape. "The public has every right to know who Zinke and his staff are meeting with, especially when it comes to policies that will have disastrous consequences for our public lands and climate. But time after time, Zinke appears to be putting the American people last."

*The Center for Biological Diversity is a national, nonprofit conservation organization with more than 1.3 million members and online activists dedicated to the protection of endangered species and wild places.*

**To:** Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** April Slayton[april\_slayton@nps.gov]  
**From:** Barnum, Jeremy  
**Sent:** 2017-12-04T17:50:54-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: checking in on a few fronts  
**Received:** 2017-12-04T17:51:35-05:00

Hi Heather,

We checked with our FOIA office on this. It looks like there was a directive specific to the monuments review only. See below.

-Jeremy

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Julka, Clarice** <[clarice\\_julka@ios.doi.gov](mailto:clarice_julka@ios.doi.gov)>

Date: Mon, Nov 6, 2017 at 12:20 PM

Subject: coordination: FOIA requests related to monuments.

To: Jessica Rogers <[jessica.rogers@bia.gov](mailto:jessica.rogers@bia.gov)>, Ryan Witt <[rwitt@blm.gov](mailto:rwitt@blm.gov)>, "Alcantara, Natasha" <[Natasha.Alcantara@boem.gov](mailto:Natasha.Alcantara@boem.gov)>, "Caro, Jesus" <[jcaro@usbr.gov](mailto:jcaro@usbr.gov)>, "Hyde-Michaels, Carrie" <[carrie\\_hyde-michaels@fws.gov](mailto:carrie_hyde-michaels@fws.gov)>, Dorothy Tinker <[dorothy.tinker@bsee.gov](mailto:dorothy.tinker@bsee.gov)>, "Wilson, Charis" <[charis\\_wilson@nps.gov](mailto:charis_wilson@nps.gov)>, Stefanie Jewett <[stefanie\\_jewett@doioig.gov](mailto:stefanie_jewett@doioig.gov)>, Oladele Awoniyi <[oawoniyi@osmre.gov](mailto:oawoniyi@osmre.gov)>, Lance Purvis <[lance.purvis@sol.doi.gov](mailto:lance.purvis@sol.doi.gov)>, Brian May <[bmay@usgs.gov](mailto:bmay@usgs.gov)>  
Cc: Cindy Cafaro <[cindy\\_cafaro@ios.doi.gov](mailto:cindy_cafaro@ios.doi.gov)>, Robert Howarth <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)>

To FOIA Officers:

The OS FOIA office will coordinate all FOIA requests related to the Secretary's review of monuments under Executive Order 13792 issued on April 26, 2017, including those FOIA's that reference the Secretary's Interim and/or Final Report to the President. This would also include any FOIA requesting records pertaining to your bureaus' participation in the review of any monument.

Once you have collected the records for these FOIA's, please forward them to the OS FOIA office for processing and final letter to the requester. If you have already processed one of these FOIA's, please provide me the FOIA number and the records provided to the requester.

This coordination does not include those requests seeking comments from the public that are available at [regulations.gov](http://regulations.gov) (<https://www.regulations.gov/docket?D=DOI-2017-0002>).

Please contact me if you have requests or receive requests in the future related to this issue.

Thank you.

Clarice

Clarice Julka  
Department of the Interior  
Office of the Secretary, FOIA Office  
[1849 C Street, NW](https://www.doi.gov), MS-7328  
Washington, D.C. 20240  
[Clarice\\_Julka@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Clarice_Julka@ios.doi.gov)  
(202) 513-0765 - phone  
(202) 208-6045 - direct line  
(202) 219-2374 - fax

Jeremy K. Barnum  
Acting Chief of Public Affairs  
National Park Service  
Office: (202) 513-7262



On Fri, Dec 1, 2017 at 6:05 PM, Jeremy Barnum <[jeremy\\_barnum@nps.gov](mailto:jeremy_barnum@nps.gov)> wrote:

I haven't heard anything like this. Will check.

Jeremy Barnum  
Public Affairs Officer  
National Park Service

On Dec 1, 2017, at 1:16 PM, Heather Swift <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

This isn't true is it?

Heather Swift  
Press Secretary  
Department of the Interior

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Eilperin, Juliet" <[Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com](mailto:Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com)>  
**Date:** December 1, 2017 at 1:10:31 PM EST  
**To:** "[Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)" <[Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)>, "Swift, Heather" <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Subject:** **checking in on a few fronts**

Three, it appears that regional NPS FOIA officers are now saying that all FOIA requests are being processed through the Office of the Secretary, which is a change from just a couple of weeks ago. Is it possible to get a comment on why this policy shift occurred?

**To:** Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Interior\_Press@ios.doi.gov[Interior\_Press@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Eilperin, Juliet  
**Sent:** 2017-12-01T19:16:18-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** RE: checking in on a few fronts  
**Received:** 2017-12-01T19:16:23-05:00

Dear Heather,

Thanks for these replies, and I will reach out to NPS on the third question, and will await to hear back from you on the second question.

Best, Juliet

---

**From:** Heather Swift [mailto:heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**Sent:** Friday, December 01, 2017 6:41 PM  
**To:** Eilperin, Juliet <Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com>  
**Cc:** Interior\_Press@ios.doi.gov  
**Subject:** Re: checking in on a few fronts

1. We have no new announcements on national monuments.
2. Checked back with exec sec/solicitors. Expect something soon. It got lost in the holiday hustle.
3. That is wholly false. NPS can speak to their FOIA procedures.
4. The Department has no new announcements on national monuments.

Heather Swift  
Press Secretary  
Department of the Interior

On Dec 1, 2017, at 1:10 PM, Eilperin, Juliet <[Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com](mailto:Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com)> wrote:

Dear All,

I had a few questions for different stories, so I thought it's easiest if I put them in one email.

1. First, I just published this piece about how USDA confirmed that the department did not specifically recommend any Forest Land be removed from Bears Ears or four other national monuments under review, and I just wanted to see if DOI wanted to comment: <http://wapo.st/2Br1U3Q>
2. Second, I'd love to get those stats, if it's possible, on how the rate of FOIA requests has increased since January, compared to the year before.
3. Three, it appears that regional NPS FOIA officers are now saying that all FOIA requests are being processed through the Office of the Secretary, which is a change from just a couple of weeks ago. Is it possible to get a comment on why this policy shift occurred?
4. Four, if you have any further comments on the draft documents on Bears Ears and Grand Staircase-Escalante, now that other outlets have reported on this, let me know.

I am best reached via email or cell, (b) (6)

Thanks, Juliet

Juliet Eilperin  
Senior National Affairs Correspondent  
Washington Post

[Juliet.eilperin@washpost.com](mailto:Juliet.eilperin@washpost.com)

(O) 202-334-7774

(C) (b) (6)

@eilperin



**To:** Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Frank Quimby[frank\_quimby@ios.doi.gov]; Eileen Angelico[eileen.angelico@bsee.gov]  
**From:** Julian, Gregory  
**Sent:** 2017-10-02T15:36:32-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd: FOIA  
**Received:** 2017-10-02T15:36:39-04:00

Hi Heather,

We've received several FOIA queries like the one below regarding the regulatory review and Eileen would like to talk strategy with you on Wednesday if possible.

The other two are from NY Times and Wall Street Journal.

Best,  
Greg

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Angelico, Eileen <[eileen.angelico@bsee.gov](mailto:eileen.angelico@bsee.gov)>  
**Date:** Mon, Oct 2, 2017 at 12:03 PM  
**Subject:** Fwd: FOIA  
**To:** Gregory Julian <[gregory.julian@bsee.gov](mailto:gregory.julian@bsee.gov)>

FYI

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** FOIA, BSEE <[bseefoia@bsee.gov](mailto:bseefoia@bsee.gov)>  
**Date:** Thu, Sep 28, 2017 at 7:18 AM  
**Subject:** Fwd: FOIA  
**To:** Thomas Lillie <[thomas.lillie@bsee.gov](mailto:thomas.lillie@bsee.gov)>, Eileen Angelico <[eileen.angelico@bsee.gov](mailto:eileen.angelico@bsee.gov)>

FYI -- See news media request below

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Zack Kopplin <[ZackK@whistleblower.org](mailto:ZackK@whistleblower.org)>  
**Date:** Mon, Sep 25, 2017 at 6:50 PM  
**Subject:** FOIA  
**To:** "[BSEEF0IA@bsee.gov](mailto:BSEEF0IA@bsee.gov)" <[BSEEF0IA@bsee.gov](mailto:BSEEF0IA@bsee.gov)>

## Government Accountability Project

Zack Kopplin, GAP Investigator

(b) (6)

[New Orleans, Louisiana 70115](#)

225-715-5946

## **FOIA Request**

Dear Freedom of Information Officer:

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552, I am requesting a search for any and all emails between Scott Angelle and Secretary Zinke since 1/20/17.

Thank you.

If any of the material covered by this request has been destroyed or removed, please provide all surrounding documentation including, but not limited to, a description of the action taken regarding the materials and justification for those actions taken.

For any documents or portions you deny due to a specific FOIA exemption, please provide a detailed justification of your grounds for claiming such exemption, explaining why the exemption is relevant to the document or portion of the document withheld.

I anticipate that any responsive documents will be unclassified. If any of the responsive documents contain classified information, please segregate all unclassified material within the classified documents and provide all unclassified information.

I consent to the deletion of any material that would violate an individual's rights under the Privacy Act. We will work with your office to prioritize responsive data for this request, further refine the request if you find any terms too imprecise, conduct searches for unclassified responsive records, or engage in any other reasonable activities that would lessen the agency's burden and costs.

I request that all fees incurred in connection with the attached request be waived, because "disclosure of the information is in the public interest and is not primarily in the commercial interest of the requester." 5 U.S.C. §552 (a)(4)(A)(iii).

I am a member of the media. I have published articles in a wide variety of news outlets including *The Atlantic*, *Slate Magazine*, *Politico Magazine*, *Science Magazine*, the *Daily Beast*, *Salon*, *ThinkProgress* and *The Guardian*. I have appeared on a wide variety of television, radio and digital news programs including HBO, MSNBC, NPR and PBS and I have helped create news segments for NowThis News.

My articles have been widely read, with many reaching hundreds of thousands of readers. Whatever I write has a reasonable expectation of publication. My editorial and writing skills are well established.

On top of this, the organization I work for, the Government Accountability Project, runs a news blog, where newsworthy information can be published.

My requests are made as part of my news gathering process.

While my research is not limited to this, a great deal of it, including this, focuses on the activities and attitudes of the government itself and disseminating it to the public.

It is unnecessary for me to demonstrate the relevance of this particular subject in advance. Additionally, despite my past record, case law states that "proof of the ability to disseminate the released information to a broad cross-section of the public is not required." *Judicial Watch, Inc. v. Dep't of Justice*, 365 F.3d 1108, 1126 (D.C. Cir. 2004); see *Carney v. U.S. Dep't of Justice*, 19 F.3d 807, 814-15 (2d Cir. 1994). Further, courts have held that "qualified because it also had "firm" plans to "publish a number of . . . 'document sets'" concerning United States foreign and national security policy." Under this criteria, as well, I qualify as a member of the news media. Additionally, courts have held that the news media status "focuses on the nature of the requester, not its request. The provision requires that the request be "made by" a representative of the news media. *Id.* § 552(a)(4)(A)(ii)(II). A newspaper reporter, for example, is a representative of the news media regardless of how much interest there is in the story for which he or she is requesting information." As such, the details of the request itself are moot for the purposes of determining the appropriate fee category.

The disclosure is "likely to contribute" to an understanding of government operations or activities.

While I do not need to explain the specifics of why I make each individual request, these documents will help me to better inform the public about potential waste, fraud or abuse, gross negligence or abuse of authority, or threats to public health and safety or the environment. All of this will serve the American people and strengthen our country.

## **The Government Accountability Project's Public Interest Status and History**

GAP is a non-profit, non-partisan, public interest organization chartered under IRS Code §501 (C)(3) as a non-profit, educational and charitable organization. We seek to serve the public through achieving governmental accountability by protecting and encouraging federal and corporate employees who observe or are victimized by wrongdoing, gross waste of public funds, threats to public health and safety, environmental contamination, corruption, abuse of the public trust and other abuses of power.

GAP accomplishes these goals primarily by conducting advocacy campaigns before Congress, through the media, and for the general public and by providing legal representation to whistleblowers to combat the retaliation they have suffered in exercising their right of occupational free speech. Our twin aims are to promote corporate and government accountability and to expose, investigate, and correct substantive problems that formed the basis of protected whistleblowing disclosures. GAP's role is well-recognized by the courts and, as an organization, has informational standing under the First Amendment protecting its receipt of disclosed information. *Taylor v. RTC*, 56 F.3d 1437 (D.C. 1995); *United States v. Garde*, 573 F. Supp. 604 (D.D.C. 1987); ~ *Generally Virginia Pharmacy Bd. v. Virginia Consumer Council*, 425 U.S. 748, 756-57 (1976).

GAP has a 20-year history of working in the public interest. GAP does not take individual cases based on the client's ability to pay, how much money GAP believes it can recover in legal fees through litigation or any other commercial interest.

GAP takes cases of legitimately harassed whistleblowers, often pro-bono (without charge), that further public policy or legislative changes that make the law stronger for workers who witness and choose to tell the truth about corporate and taxpayer-financed wrongdoing and to pursue exposure and resolution of the wrongdoing.

GAP has, among other things, pushed for enactment of several whistleblower protection statutes, exposed unhealthy food at supermarket chains, pushed for independent reviews of the safety of the Alaska pipeline, exposed the threat of explosion in waste tanks at the Hanford nuclear site, and pushed for policy reform within numerous executive agencies. All this activity is done primarily with the interest of the public in mind.

### **Non-commercial use of the Requested Information**

Disclosure of this information by GAP is in no way connected with any commercial interest since GAP is a non-profit, tax-exempt organization under § 501 (c)(3) of the IRS Code. The information we are seeking is crucial to advance public knowledge and will not be put to any commercial use.

## **Reducing Request Workload**

If you disallow my fee-waiver request, I pledge to pay the price of the FOIA request up to \$25. Alert me if it exceeds this price.

Please begin working on the request while processing the request for a fee waiver.

Please send me documents electronically.

Please be reminded that under the Freedom of Information Act, we are entitled to a response to this request within twenty working days. Should this request be denied for any reason, we ask that a detailed explanation be provided along with the name of the person to whom administrative appeals should be addressed.

If my request is taking a large amount of time, please process it in tranches so I may begin processing the documents while waiting for the request to be filled.

Thank you in advance for your assistance and cooperation,

Zack Kopplin, Investigator and Outreach Associate

Government Accountability Project

225-715-5946

--

**Greg Julian**

Press Secretary

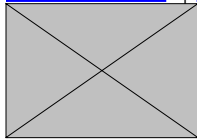
Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement

O: 202-208-6184

M: 202-412-8375

[Gregory.Julian@bsee.gov](mailto:Gregory.Julian@bsee.gov)

<http://www.bsee.gov/> | <https://www.linkedin.com/company/bureau-of-safety-and-environmental-enforcement> | <https://twitter.com/BSEEGov> | <https://www.facebook.com/BSEEGov/>



**To:** Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]; Laura Rigas[laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** DuBray, Daniel  
**Sent:** 2017-07-25T14:47:44-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd: FOIA BOR-2017-00299 from: David Fahrenthold  
**Received:** 2017-07-25T14:47:53-04:00

FYI. We'll have nothing responsive...but wanted you both to be aware of the request and the requestor. d

Dan DuBray  
Chief, Public Affairs  
Commissioner's Office  
Bureau of Reclamation  
1849 C Street, NW MS-7069  
Washington, DC 20240  
Direct: (202) 513-0574  
Cell: (571) 277-1197  
[ddubray@usbr.gov](mailto:ddubray@usbr.gov)  
Twitter: @DuBray

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Lucero, Jeffrey <[jlucero@usbr.gov](mailto:jlucero@usbr.gov)>  
**Date:** Tue, Jul 25, 2017 at 12:27 PM  
**Subject:** Fwd: FOIA BOR-2017-00299 from: David Fahrenthold  
**To:** LaWanda Oates <[loates@usbr.gov](mailto:loates@usbr.gov)>, Arnold Johnson <[AJOHNSON@usbr.gov](mailto:AJOHNSON@usbr.gov)>, "ASGAdmAsstDetail, BOR WRO" <[asgadmasstdetail@usbr.gov](mailto:asgadmasstdetail@usbr.gov)>, Patricia Aaron <[paaron@usbr.gov](mailto:paaron@usbr.gov)>, "DuBray, Daniel" <[ddubray@usbr.gov](mailto:ddubray@usbr.gov)>, David Palumbo <[dpalumbo@usbr.gov](mailto:dpalumbo@usbr.gov)>, Grayford Payne <[gfpayne@usbr.gov](mailto:gfpayne@usbr.gov)>, "Hess, James" <[jhess@usbr.gov](mailto:jhess@usbr.gov)>, Alan Mikkelsen <[amikkelsen@usbr.gov](mailto:amikkelsen@usbr.gov)>, Lauren Meredith <[lmeredith@usbr.gov](mailto:lmeredith@usbr.gov)>, Robert Wolf <[rwolf@usbr.gov](mailto:rwolf@usbr.gov)>, Marie HughesBrown <[mhughesbrown@usbr.gov](mailto:mhughesbrown@usbr.gov)>, "Gessel, Randy" <[rgessel@usbr.gov](mailto:rgessel@usbr.gov)>, Sherry Love <[slove@usbr.gov](mailto:slove@usbr.gov)>, Debra Bloom <[dbloom@usbr.gov](mailto:dbloom@usbr.gov)>, "Duchesne, Matthew" <[mduchesne@usbr.gov](mailto:mduchesne@usbr.gov)>, Otelia Quarles <[oquarles@usbr.gov](mailto:oquarles@usbr.gov)>, "Coleman, Jeanette" <[jcoleman@usbr.gov](mailto:jcoleman@usbr.gov)>, "Rogers, Evann" <[erogers@usbr.gov](mailto:erogers@usbr.gov)>, "Lawler, Deborah" <[dlawler@usbr.gov](mailto:dlawler@usbr.gov)>, Mathew Maucieri <[mmaucieri@usbr.gov](mailto:mmaucieri@usbr.gov)>, Christina Kalavritinos <[ckalavritinos@usbr.gov](mailto:ckalavritinos@usbr.gov)>

Good Afternoon

Please see the incoming FOIA request from Mr. David Fahrenthold of the Washington Post.

The request description: "any records detailing arrangements by the BOR or any of its subordinate offices to hold conferences, retreats, trainings, or other gatherings of employees at properties owned by or managed by the Trump Organization. My request covers gatherings that have already occurred, and gatherings planned in the future."

I would appreciate any relevant records by **COB Aug 15, 2017**.

If you do not have any records a negative response is requested.

Should you have questions, please contact me at anytime.

thank you  
Jeff

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Freedom of Information Act Mailbox, BOR** <[borfoia@usbr.gov](mailto:borfoia@usbr.gov)>

Date: Tue, Jul 25, 2017 at 9:27 AM

Subject: Fwd: FOIA BOR-2017-00299 from: David Fahrenthold

To: Aaron Alton <[aalton@usbr.gov](mailto:aalton@usbr.gov)>, Alisha Daniel <[adaniel@usbr.gov](mailto:adaniel@usbr.gov)>, BOR PNR PNFOIA <[gen-pnr-pnfoia@usbr.gov](mailto:gen-pnr-pnfoia@usbr.gov)>, Christopher Miller <[csmiller@usbr.gov](mailto:csmiller@usbr.gov)>, Curtis Pierce <[cpierce@usbr.gov](mailto:cpierce@usbr.gov)>, Donna Hirning <[dhirning@usbr.gov](mailto:dhirning@usbr.gov)>, Janet Belcher <[jbelcher@usbr.gov](mailto:jbelcher@usbr.gov)>, Jeffrey Lucero <[jlucero@usbr.gov](mailto:jlucero@usbr.gov)>, Kevin Reynolds <[kreynolds@usbr.gov](mailto:kreynolds@usbr.gov)>, Melinda Jones <[majones@usbr.gov](mailto:majones@usbr.gov)>, Melissa Chastain <[mchastain@usbr.gov](mailto:mchastain@usbr.gov)>, Michelle Escobar <[mescobar@usbr.gov](mailto:mescobar@usbr.gov)>, Stacy Wade <[slwade@usbr.gov](mailto:slwade@usbr.gov)>, Yadyra Esparza <[yesparza@usbr.gov](mailto:yesparza@usbr.gov)>  
Cc: Deborah Suehr <[DSUEHR@usbr.gov](mailto:DSUEHR@usbr.gov)>

REF: BOR-2017-00299

All,

Please see below FOIA requesting "any records detailing arrangements by the BOR or any of its subordinate offices to hold conferences, retreats, trainings, or other gatherings of employees at properties owned by or managed by the Trump Organization. My request covers gatherings that have already occurred, and gatherings planned in the future."

We will be collecting and consolidating the response here in Denver. Please let us know if you have any responsive records, or if you have none, by 8/17/17. If you don't think you can gather your responses in that time-frame please let me know.

Thanks,  
Jesse

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **U.S. Department of the Interior** <[doi-webforms@ios.doi.gov](mailto:doi-webforms@ios.doi.gov)>

Date: Mon, Jul 24, 2017 at 3:23 PM

Subject: FOIA from: David Fahrenthold

To: [bor\\_foia@usbr.gov](mailto:bor_foia@usbr.gov)

Submitted on Monday, July 24, 2017 - 5:23pm  
Submitted by anonymous user: [10.156.8.158]  
Submitted values are:

Your Name: David Fahrenthold  
Street Address: 1301 K Street NW



City: Washington

State or Country: DC

Zip or Postal Code: 20071

Address Type: Business

Daytime Phone Number: 202-334-7550

Fax Number:

E-mail Address: [fahrenthold@washpost.com](mailto:fahrenthold@washpost.com)

Confirm E-mail Address : [fahrenthold@washpost.com](mailto:fahrenthold@washpost.com)

Your Organization: The Washington Post

Are you filing the request on behalf of another party? No

If so, who are you filing the request on behalf of?

Contact Information Certification: I certify that the above statement(s) concerning who I am filing the request on behalf of are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief. If I want to receive greater access to records about a person I represent, I will submit proof that the person consents to the release of the records to me, as discussed in 43 C.F.R. § 2.9.

Bureau/Office: Bureau of Reclamation (BOR)

Relevant park, refuge, site or other location:

Request Description: I request any records detailing arrangements by the BOR or any of its subordinate offices to hold conferences, retreats, trainings, or other gatherings of employees at properties owned by or managed by the Trump Organization. My request covers gatherings that have already occurred, and gatherings planned in the future.

Requester's Communication Preferences: Electronic communication via email

Document Disclosure Preferences: Electronic copies via email

Select the applicable reason why you are requesting expedited processing: There is an urgency to inform the public concerning actual or alleged Federal government activity and the request is made by a person primarily engaged in disseminating information.

Justification for Expedited Processing: I am a member of the media and this request concerns a matter of high public interest, which is the use of government funds to support a private business owned by the Trump Organization.

Expedited Processing Certification: I certify that the above statement(s) concerning expedited processing are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Please select the appropriate statement: I am requesting a waiver or reduction of fees.

I agree to pay fees up to this particular amount: \$500

To assist in determining my requester category to assess fees, you should know that I am: a representative of the news media and this request is made as part of a news gathering effort and not for commercial use

Affiliated Organization: The Washington Post

Check the boxes to the right to confirm that you meet the Department's fee waiver criteria:

Disclosure of the information is in the public interest because it is likely to contribute significantly to public understanding of the operations or activities of the Government.

Please explain why your request for a waiver of fees or a reduction in fees is justified.: I am a member of the media and this request concerns a matter of high public interest, which is the use of government funds to support a private business owned by the Trump Organization.

The results of this submission may be viewed at:

<https://www.doi.gov/node/11498/submission/303481>

--

**Jeffrey M. Lucero**

**Deputy Chief of Staff  
Commissioner's Office  
Bureau Of Reclamation  
1849 C Street NW (91-10000)  
MS-7069-MIB, RM 7543  
Washington DC 20240**

**(202) 513-0327 (W)**

**(406) 698-9939 (M)**

**To:** Laura Rigas[laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov]; Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]; Russell Newell[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov]; Ross, Paul[paul\_ross@ios.doi.gov]; Gavin Shire[gavin\_shire@fws.gov]  
**From:** Wainman, Barbara  
**Sent:** 2017-12-19T09:44:47-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd: FOIA Release - elephant parts Zambia/Zimbabwe - FWS-2018-00267 (Alexander Fox)  
**Received:** 2017-12-19T09:45:20-05:00  
[FOIA Request.pdf](#)  
[DecSummary.FOIA-2018-00267\\_Fox.12.12.17.xlsx](#)  
[Fox Final Response.docx](#)

FYI this FOIA is going out today for your awareness

Barbara W. Wainman  
Assistant Director, External Affairs  
US Fish and Wildlife Service  
(202) 208-5256 (office)  
(571) 471-4159 (cell)

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Hyde-Michaels, Carrie <[carrie\\_hyde-michaels@fws.gov](mailto:carrie_hyde-michaels@fws.gov)>  
**Date:** Tue, Dec 19, 2017 at 9:36 AM  
**Subject:** FOIA Release - elephant parts Zambia/Zimbabwe - FWS-2018-00267 (Alexander Fox)  
**To:** Barbara Wainman <[barbara\\_wainman@fws.gov](mailto:barbara_wainman@fws.gov)>, Kenneth Taylor <[kenneth\\_taylor@fws.gov](mailto:kenneth_taylor@fws.gov)>  
**Cc:** Matthew Huggler <[matthew\\_huggler@fws.gov](mailto:matthew_huggler@fws.gov)>, Shelley Hartmann <[shelley\\_hartmann@fws.gov](mailto:shelley_hartmann@fws.gov)>, Gavin Shire <[gavin\\_shire@fws.gov](mailto:gavin_shire@fws.gov)>

OLE plans to issue the attached FOIA response today to the San Jose Mercury News. The request was for information concerning seizures of elephant parts (trophies and ivory) for the last 10 years relating to the countries of Zimbabwe and Zambia. Incoming request, outgoing response letter, and the records to be released are attached.

Thanks,  
Carrie Hyde-Michaels  
FWS FOIA Officer  
Chief, Branch of FOIA, Records, Privacy  
US Fish & Wildlife Service Headquarters  
703-358-2291 (direct)

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Scully, Kathleen <[kathleen\\_scully@fws.gov](mailto:kathleen_scully@fws.gov)>  
**Date:** Tue, Dec 19, 2017 at 8:59 AM

Subject: Fwd: FWS-2018-00267 (Alexander Fox) - This is Ready to Be Released (Full Release Relating to Elephant Parts)

To: Carrie Hyde-Michaels <[carrie\\_hyde-michaels@fws.gov](mailto:carrie_hyde-michaels@fws.gov)>

Cc: James Gale <[james\\_gale@fws.gov](mailto:james_gale@fws.gov)>, Edward Grace <[edward\\_grace@fws.gov](mailto:edward_grace@fws.gov)>

Carrie,

As requested, attached is a release we are ready to make that deals with Elephants and Zimbabwe. We are officially notifying you so that you can route the information according to whatever new procedures are required regarding coordination between IRTM and External Affairs, etc. We will hold off on the release until you let us know that the appropriate offices have been given a heads up.

Kathy

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Michael Jenkins** <[michael\\_jenkins@fws.gov](mailto:michael_jenkins@fws.gov)>

Date: Tue, Dec 19, 2017 at 8:39 AM

Subject: FWS-2018-00267 (Alexander Fox) - This is Ready to Be Released (Full Release Relating to Elephant Parts)

To: Kathleen Scully <[kathleen\\_scully@fws.gov](mailto:kathleen_scully@fws.gov)>

Cc: Kenneth Perry <[kenneth\\_perry@fws.gov](mailto:kenneth_perry@fws.gov)>

This particular request relates to the following:

***Information concerning all elephant parts (seizures) for the last 10 years relating to the countries of Zimbabwe and Zambia.***

This will be a full release and it is ready to go out today – please advise management and/or Carrie as you see fit. Please let us know when we can proceed with this release.

--

Michael Jenkins  
Management Analyst  
USFWS, Office of Law Enforcement

--

**Kathy Scully**

Chief, Planning and Analysis

Office of Law Enforcement

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

5275 Leesburg Pike

MS: OLE

Falls Church, VA 22041-3803

**To:** Newell, Russell[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov]; Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Rigas, Laura  
**Sent:** 2017-10-30T14:50:16-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd: FOIA:august and september Secretary calendars (24-hour hold)  
**Received:** 2017-10-30T14:50:27-04:00  
[August Calendar.pdf](#)  
[September Calendar.pdf](#)

These are going out soon.

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** **Howarth, Robert** <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Date:** Mon, Oct 30, 2017 at 12:01 PM  
**Subject:** Fwd: FOIA:august and september Secretary calendars (24-hour hold)  
**To:** Laura Rigas <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)>

Hi Laura. For your awareness.

Rob

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** **Julka, Clarice** <[clarice\\_julka@ios.doi.gov](mailto:clarice_julka@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Date:** Mon, Oct 30, 2017 at 11:38 AM  
**Subject:** FOIA:august and september Secretary calendars (24-hour hold)  
**To:** Robert Howarth <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)>

Attached are the redacted secretarial calendars for August and September. We would like to post these in our FOIA library tomorrow.

v/r

Clarice

Clarice Julka  
Department of the Interior  
Office of the Secretary, FOIA Office  
1849 C Street, NW, MS-7328  
Washington, D.C. 20240  
[Clarice\\_Julka@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Clarice_Julka@ios.doi.gov)  
(202) 513-0765 - phone  
(202) 208-6045 - direct line  
(202) 219-2374 - fax

--

Robert Howarth  
Deputy Director for Correspondence and FOIA Management

Office of the Executive Secretariat and Regulatory Affairs  
Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20240  
202-208-3181  
202-208-4451 (direct)  
202-549-8961 (cell)

**To:** Todd Willens[todd\_willens@ios.doi.gov]; Magallanes, Downey[downey\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Newell, Russell[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov]; Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Rigas, Laura  
**Sent:** 2017-09-12T16:21:05-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd: For Release Tomorrow -- NPS/NPF National Christmas Tree Lighting "Save the Date"  
**Received:** 2017-09-12T16:22:08-04:00  
[NCTL 2017 Announcement 1 5 Dates to Remember for the 2017 National Christmas Tree Lighting v4 \(1\).docx](#)  
[NPS BRIEFING - Yule Log - August 21 2017.docx](#)  
[NPS BRIEFING - NCTL 8.2017.docx](#)

Todd/Downey --  
FYI. Just flagging.  
Thanks,  
L

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Ross, Paul <[paul\\_ross@ios.doi.gov](mailto:paul_ross@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Date:** Tue, Sep 12, 2017 at 2:54 PM  
**Subject:** Fwd: For Release Tomorrow -- NPS/NPF National Christmas Tree Lighting "Save the Date"  
**To:** Laura Rigas <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)>, "Swift, Heather" <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)>, Russell Newell <[russell\\_newell@ios.doi.gov](mailto:russell_newell@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Cc:** Rebecca Matulka <[rebecca\\_matulka@ios.doi.gov](mailto:rebecca_matulka@ios.doi.gov)>

All-

Apologies for the short notice on this, but NPS just received word from the National Capitol Region and the National Parks Foundation that the attached release will go out tomorrow. It is announcing important dates for the National Christmas Tree Lighting, which is being driven by the Hallmark Channel's holiday programming announcement (more details below).

This is one of likely 6 releases and 3 advisories concerning the event that will go out between now and the airing date of Dec. 4 (Lighting actually takes place on Nov. 30). NCR will provide us a full outline of all those announcements later this week. One or two might make sense to elevate to the DOI level. I have no concerns with this going tomorrow. But will wait for your clearance.

**Paul R. Ross**

Senior Public Affairs Specialist  
Office of Communications  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
Office: (202) 501-4633 | Cell: (202) 507-1689

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Barnum, Jeremy <[jeremy\\_barnum@nps.gov](mailto:jeremy_barnum@nps.gov)>  
**Date:** Tue, Sep 12, 2017 at 1:07 PM



Subject: For Release Tomorrow -- NPS/NPF National Christmas Tree Lighting "Save the Date"  
To: Paul Ross <[paul\\_ross@ios.doi.gov](mailto:paul_ross@ios.doi.gov)>  
Cc: April Slayton <[april\\_slayton@nps.gov](mailto:april_slayton@nps.gov)>

Paul,

Apologies for the short heads up on the attached news release to go out **tomorrow** from our colleagues at the National Capital Region and the National Park Foundation on this year's National Christmas Tree Lighting.

The Hallmark Channel is planning to roll out their slate of holiday programming tomorrow, including the airing of the tree lighting so our colleagues at NPF and NCR have been scrambling to put together a quick announcement of key dates related to tickets to watch the ceremony.

Per NCR, WH reps have been part of these discussions from the beginning and should be well aware of what's been planned.

We're also attaching a couple of briefing statements on this for your awareness. Our NCR colleagues are at the ready to brief you and the DOI Comms team further should you be interested. NPS leadership has a briefing planned for the Assistant Deputy Secretary's office soon.

Best,

Jeremy K. Barnum  
Acting Chief of Public Affairs  
National Park Service  
Office: (202) 513-7262

**FIND YOUR  
PARK**   
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[Instagram](#) [YouTube](#)

**To:** Laura Rigas[laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov]; Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]; Russell Newell[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Rebecca Matulka[rebecca\_matulka@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Ross, Paul  
**Sent:** 2017-09-12T14:54:13-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd: For Release Tomorrow -- NPS/NPF National Christmas Tree Lighting "Save the Date"  
**Received:** 2017-09-12T14:54:23-04:00  
[NCTL 2017 Announcement 1 5 Dates to Remember for the 2017 National Christmas Tree Lighting v4 \(1\).docx](#)  
[NPS BRIEFING - Yule Log - August 21 2017.docx](#)  
[NPS BRIEFING - NCTL 8.2017.docx](#)

All-

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**Paul R. Ross**

Senior Public Affairs Specialist  
Office of Communications  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
Office: (202) 501-4633 | Cell: (202) 507-1689

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Barnum, Jeremy** <[jeremy\\_barnum@nps.gov](mailto:jeremy_barnum@nps.gov)>  
Date: Tue, Sep 12, 2017 at 1:07 PM  
Subject: For Release Tomorrow -- NPS/NPF National Christmas Tree Lighting "Save the Date"  
To: Paul Ross <[paul\\_ross@ios.doi.gov](mailto:paul_ross@ios.doi.gov)>  
Cc: April Slayton <[april\\_slayton@nps.gov](mailto:april_slayton@nps.gov)>

Paul,

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aware of what's been planned.

We're also attaching a couple of briefing statements on this for your awareness. Our NCR colleagues are at the ready to brief you and the DOI Comms team further should you be interested. NPS leadership has a briefing planned for the Assistant Deputy Secretary's office soon.

Best,

Jeremy K. Barnum  
Acting Chief of Public Affairs  
National Park Service  
Office: (202) 513-7262

**FIND YOUR  
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[Facebook](#) [Twitter](#)  
[Instagram](#) [YouTube](#)

**To:** Laura Rigas[laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov]; Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]; Russell Newell[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov]; Rebecca Matulka[rebecca\_matulka@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Ross, Paul  
**Sent:** 2017-10-25T15:46:30-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd: FW: Quigley Delivers +50,000 Plastic Water Bottle Ban Petitions to Department of Interior  
**Received:** 2017-10-25T15:46:38-04:00

Just an FYI

**Paul R. Ross**

Senior Public Affairs Specialist  
Office of Communications  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
Office: (202) 501-4633 | Cell: (202) 507-1689

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Barnum, Jeremy** <[jeremy\\_barnum@nps.gov](mailto:jeremy_barnum@nps.gov)>  
Date: Wed, Oct 25, 2017 at 3:44 PM  
Subject: Fwd: FW: Quigley Delivers +50,000 Plastic Water Bottle Ban Petitions to Department of Interior  
To: Paul Ross <[paul\\_ross@ios.doi.gov](mailto:paul_ross@ios.doi.gov)>  
Cc: April Slayton <[april\\_slayton@nps.gov](mailto:april_slayton@nps.gov)>

Just a heads up.

Jeremy K. Barnum  
Acting Chief of Public Affairs  
National Park Service  
Office: (202) 513-7262



[Facebook](#) [Twitter](#)  
[Instagram](#) [YouTube](#)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Colvin, Chris** <[christopher\\_colvin@nps.gov](mailto:christopher_colvin@nps.gov)>  
Date: Wed, Oct 25, 2017 at 3:42 PM  
Subject: Fwd: FW: Quigley Delivers +50,000 Plastic Water Bottle Ban Petitions to Department of Interior  
To: Susan Farinelli <[susan\\_farinelli@nps.gov](mailto:susan_farinelli@nps.gov)>, Jeremy Barnum <[jeremy\\_barnum@nps.gov](mailto:jeremy_barnum@nps.gov)>, Michael Litterst <[mike\\_litterst@nps.gov](mailto:mike_litterst@nps.gov)>, "Olson, Jeffrey" <[jeffrey\\_olson@nps.gov](mailto:jeffrey_olson@nps.gov)>, "Earnest, Gifford" <[kyle\\_earnest@nps.gov](mailto:kyle_earnest@nps.gov)>

FYI--in case you didn't see this already. It looks like they went to MIB.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Frankel, Max** <[Max.Frankel@mail.house.gov](mailto:Max.Frankel@mail.house.gov)>  
Date: Wed, Oct 25, 2017 at 3:17 PM

Subject: FW: Quigley Delivers +50,000 Plastic Water Bottle Ban Petitions to Department of Interior

To: "Frankel, Max" <[Max.Frankel@mail.house.gov](mailto:Max.Frankel@mail.house.gov)>

Hello,

Please see the release below... busy week!

Best,

**Max Frankel**

Legislative Assistant

Congressman Mike Quigley (IL-05)

2458 Rayburn House Office Building

Washington, DC. 20515

(202) 226- 7646



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

October 25, 2017

**CONTACT:**

[Tara Vales](#) (864) 363-8094

## **VIDEO: Quigley Delivers +50,000 Plastic Water Bottle Ban Petitions to Department of Interior**

*In September, Quigley Introduced Bill to Reinstate Ban on Sale of Single-Use Plastic Water Bottles in National Parks*

**WASHINGTON** —Today, **Representative Mike Quigley (IL-05)**, who serves as **Vice Chair of the Sustainable Energy & Environments Coalition (SEEC)**, delivered 57,828 [petitions](#) to the Department of Interior urging National Parks superintendents to resist the Trump Administration's anti-environment agenda by making their parks bottled-water-free. Rep. Quigley was joined by advocates and allies from Corporate Accountability, League of Conservation Voters, and Daily Kos.

“Today, I was proud to join environmental advocates in representing 57,828 concerned citizens and sending a clear message to President Trump on the importance of protecting our planet and our parks,” **said Rep. Quigley**. “Despite overwhelming evidence of the sustainability success of banning the sale of plastic water bottles in National Parks, the Trump Administration, once again, chose to side with big corporations at the expense of our national treasures. Today, we exercised our constitutional and democratic right to make our voices heard and demand that the Department of Interior do its job and uphold its mission. Denying science, research, and facts will destroy our earth, and we cannot—and will not—sit idly by as that happens.”

“Rescinding this policy just weeks after appointing a deputy secretary of the Interior with deep ties to Nestle is just proof that the Trump administration is of, by and for corporations, not people or the planet,” **said Alissa Weinman, water organizer at Corporate Accountability**. “Try as they might, the bottled water industry cannot make this commonsense policy disappear. We’re here sending a strong message: the bottled-water-free movement is here to stay!”

[Click here to watch](#) the Facebook Live video from today’s petition drop-off.



Last month, Rep. Quigley introduced the [Reducing Waste in National Parks Act](#) to reinstate and make permanent the Obama-era guidelines that banned the sale of single-use plastic water bottles in national park facilities. The legislation addresses the complexity of a nation-wide policy by allowing NPS regional directors great discretion in how to implement the policy while encouraging them to develop a visitor education strategy to explain the rationale for the program.

“Rep. Quigley’s bill would ensure the National Park Service can continue building on a successful waste-reduction program,” said **Alex Taurel, deputy legislative director at the League of Conservation Voters**. “The Park Service has a strong record of conservation, preserving some of our most important cultural and natural resources for more than 100 years. We commend Rep. Quigley’s environmental leadership and his support for innovative programs that help protect our public lands and waters for future generations.”

Following the implementation of the original ban on plastic water bottles, parks that were able to join the effort saw real results. Zion National Park in Utah eliminated the sale of 60,000 water bottles, or 5,000 pounds of plastic waste, by installing bottle-filling stations and selling affordable reusable bottles in their concession stands. This is a prime example of how encouraging the use of reusable bottles and making them readily available can reduce waste and act as a model for best practices in sustainability.

[A recent NPS report](#), released in September in response to a FOIA request but dated May 2017, shows that the Trump Administration knew of the efficacy of the water bottle policy first instituted under President Obama. The report reveals that the policy saved millions of water bottles from polluting park grounds and going into landfills each year. As a result of this policy, the 23 parks that adopted the ban on the sale of plastic water bottles, saw a reduction of approximately 111,743 pounds of plastic water

bottles each year – bottles previously purchased and possibly discarded improperly on NPS grounds. The findings are further evidence that the common-sense policy is effective and successful.

###

--

Chris Colvin  
Legislative Affairs Specialist  
National Park Service  
Office of Legislative & Congressional Affairs  
[1849 C Street, NW - Room 3321](#)  
Washington, DC 20240  
\*\*\*NEW\*\*\* Office (202) 513-7257  
Mobile (202) 263-9012  
[christopher\\_colvin@nps.gov](mailto:christopher_colvin@nps.gov)



**To:** heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Laura Rigas  
**Sent:** 2017-12-08T10:32:44-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd: FYI  
**Received:** 2017-12-08T10:33:02-05:00

Laura Keehner Rigas  
Communications Director  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 897-7022 cell  
@Interior

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Howarth, Robert" <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Date:** December 8, 2017 at 10:27:04 AM EST  
**To:** Downey Magallanes <[downey\\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov](mailto:downey_magallanes@ios.doi.gov)>, Laura Rigas  
<[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Subject:** FYI

OS FOIA will posting 110's around noon.

Rob

--

Robert Howarth  
Deputy Director for Correspondence and FOIA Management  
Office of the Executive Secretariat and Regulatory Affairs  
Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20240  
202-208-3181  
202-208-4451 (direct)  
202-549-8961 (cell)

**To:** downey\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov[downey\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Heather Swift  
**Sent:** 2017-12-12T15:16:42-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd: fyi - matt allen lawsuit  
**Received:** 2017-12-12T15:16:49-05:00

Heather Swift  
Press Secretary  
Department of the Interior

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Swift, Heather" <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Date:** December 12, 2017 at 1:03:46 PM EST  
**To:** David Bernhardt <[dwbernhardt@ios.doi.gov](mailto:dwbernhardt@ios.doi.gov)>, Laura Rigas  
<[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)>, Brian Steed <[bsteed@blm.gov](mailto:bsteed@blm.gov)>, Daniel Jorjani  
<[daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov](mailto:daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov)>  
**Subject:** fyi - matt allen lawsuit

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 12, 2017

Contact: Katherine Atkinson, [katherine@wilkenfeldlaw.com](mailto:katherine@wilkenfeldlaw.com), (202)765-2253

Washington, D.C. - The law firm of Wilkenfeld, Herendeen & Atkinson announced today that it has filed suit in U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia against the Department of the Interior for failing to release records related to the demotion and reassignment of Matthew Allen, one of its Senior Executive Service employees. The lawsuit marks the second time in as many months that the firm has been forced to sue the DOI for failing to release records as required under the Freedom of Information Act.

The FOIA request, which was submitted to the DOI on Tuesday, October 10th, seeks documents related to the suspicious late September removal of Mr. Allen as the communications director at the Bureau of Land Management, as well as the nature of his subsequent reassignment to a non-specific public affairs role at the Bureau of Safety and

Environmental Enforcement. Under the Freedom of Information Act, federal agencies have 20 business days to respond to information requests with the option of a 10 day extension.

“Federal agencies are required to release documents and records in a timely manner as part of their responsibility to transparency to the American people,” said Katherine Atkinson, Mr. Allen’s attorney. “Unfortunately, the DOI has once again failed to uphold this responsibility to the detriment of both my client and the public.”

Allen, an outspoken proponent for America’s public lands and recreational access, was selected for the top BLM communications position during the final months of the Obama administration. In this role he provided leadership to over 100 communications professionals across the country in public relations, legislative affairs, and external and regulatory affairs. He was removed from the position just weeks after more than 30 Senior Executives were also shuffled, which is currently being investigated by the Inspector General at the request of congress. Allen was replaced by a former Bush-era appointee amidst a flurry of whistleblowing and media reports of leaked documents from within the BLM and the DOI.

“My client’s demotion reeks of reprisal, and these documents will provide us the tools we require to prove that,” said Ms. Atkinson. “We look forward to uncovering what they are trying to hide.”

-

Heather Swift

Department of the Interior

@DOIPressSec

[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

**To:** Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]; Newell, Russell[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Rigas, Laura  
**Sent:** 2017-08-17T11:14:46-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd: FYI. Politico filed FOIA with BOEM on me.  
**Received:** 2017-08-17T11:14:53-04:00

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** **Douglas Domenech** <[douglas\\_domenech@ios.doi.gov](mailto:douglas_domenech@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Date:** Thu, Aug 17, 2017 at 10:17 AM  
**Subject:** FYI. Politico filed FOIA with BOEM on me.  
**To:** Chambers Micah <[micah\\_chambers@ios.doi.gov](mailto:micah_chambers@ios.doi.gov)>, [laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)

Sent from my iPhone

**To:** Laura Rigas[laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov]; Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]; Russell Newell[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov]; John Bockmier[john\_bockmier@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Paul Ross  
**Sent:** 2017-12-14T15:06:08-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd: FYSA High Profile FOIA - The Hill Fwd: [FOIA NPS-2017-00261] Records Request for Action – Cama  
**Received:** 2017-12-14T15:06:17-05:00

FYI

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Barnum, Jeremy" <[jeremy\\_barnum@nps.gov](mailto:jeremy_barnum@nps.gov)>  
**Date:** December 14, 2017 at 2:54:43 PM EST  
**To:** Paul Ross <[paul\\_ross@ios.doi.gov](mailto:paul_ross@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Subject:** Fwd: FYSA High Profile FOIA - The Hill Fwd: [FOIA NPS-2017-00261] Records Request for Action – Cama

FYI

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **PWR FOIA, NPS** <[nps\\_pwr\\_foia@nps.gov](mailto:nps_pwr_foia@nps.gov)>  
Date: Thu, Dec 14, 2017 at 9:44 AM  
Subject: [FOIA NPS-2017-00261] Records Request for Action – Cama  
To: Karin Messaros <[karin\\_messaros@nps.gov](mailto:karin_messaros@nps.gov)>, NPS JOTR Superintendent  
<[joshua\\_superintendent@nps.gov](mailto:joshua_superintendent@nps.gov)>, Craig Dalby <[craig\\_dalby@nps.gov](mailto:craig_dalby@nps.gov)>

IN REPLY REFER TO:  
9.C. (PWR-PI)  
NPS-2018-00261

December 14, 2017

Memorandum

**To:** FOIA Officer, Joshua Tree National Park  
**Through:** Superintendent, Joshua Tree National Park  
**From:** Chief, Public Information Program, Pacific West Region  
**Subj:** Records Request for Action – Cama

This office is forwarding for your action the attached FOIA requests submitted to the NPS FOIA website on December 13, 2017. Mr. Cama submitted four requests which have been combined and assigned the following Department of the Interior FOIA tracking number, NPS-2018-00261. Please cite this tracking number in all correspondence regarding this request.

Mr. Cama's four requests, are summarized below:

- 1. I request copies of all calendar entries for Joshua Tree National Park Superintendent David Smith from Nov. 8, 2017, through Nov. 22, 2017. For calendar entries created in Outlook or similar programs, please produce the documents in "memo" form, to include all invitees, any notes, and all attachments.*
- 2. I request copies of any emails sent to or received by (including cc and bcc) Joshua Tree National Park Superintendent David Smith that contains the words "climate" or "Twitter." Please restrict the search to records sent, received, created or edited between from Nov. 8, 2017, through Nov. 22, 2017. Please exclude any records in which the search terms are mentioned only in news clips, and there is no other content in that email other than news clips.*
- 3. I request copies of any email communications between Joshua Tree National Park Superintendent David Smith and any of the following people: Ryan Zinke, Downey Magallanes, Scott Hommel, Marshall Critchfield, David Bernhardt, Christine Bauserman, Aurelia Skipwith, Virginia Johnson, Jason Larrabee, Natalie Davis, Caroline Boulton, Michael Reynolds, Lena McDowell, Sue Masica, Laura Joss or Lisa Mendelson. Please limit the search to emails sent or received between Oct. 1, 2017 and Nov. 22, 2017.*
- 4. I request copies of all records of travel arrangements or travel expenses requested, made or incurred by or on behalf of Joshua Tree National Park Superintendent David Smith for trips in which he went or planned to go to Washington, D.C., including requests for travel arrangements, confirmations, requests to incur expenses and records of expenses paid for travel. Please restrict the search to records sent, received, created or edited between from Oct. 1, 2017, through Dec. 1, 2017*

I have combined the original four requests into one request which is attached, for your reference.

We have placed this request into the Normal processing track. Under DOI FOIA regulations, this means it should take six to 20 working days for NPS to conduct its records search and review and respond to the requester. If you believe this time

frame will be exceeded, please reply within five working days with your justification and revised time estimate. We have marked this request as perfected as of December 14, 2017. If you disagree please notify us immediately. The determination date is January 12, 2018.

This requester is not on the DOI delinquent requester list. We have classified the requester in the "News Media" category. The requester has requested a fee waiver. Please consider his rationale according to 43 C.F.R. §§ 2.48 when considering this request. If you believe that his fee waiver request should be denied, SOL review (per DOI policy) and regional office review are required, and the response letter is sent from the Regional Director.

You should begin referring records that require solicitor review with your proposed redactions and draft response letter to the region no more than 12 workdays from the perfected date.

Under the Federal Records Act, government employees are prohibited from using non-official email accounts for official business unless they either send a copy of the official message to their official email account or forward the message to their official email account within 20 days. If employees have responsive records located on non-official email accounts that have not already been copied or forwarded to their official email account, you must: (1) have them forward the messages to their official email account if they are within the 20-day window and provide them to the FOIA Officer as part of their search response; or (2) provide them to the FOIA Officer from their non-official email account as part of their search response.

For guidance, please refer to 43 CFR Part 2, DOI FOIA and Privacy Act regulations, the DOI FOIA Handbook, DOI Response Sample Language and Pacific West Region Directive PW-40.

Please track the time your staff spends processing this request and report back to us the total number of minutes spent searching or reviewing for each category as appropriate.

Clerical (GS 1-7) Records Search Minutes:  
Clerical (GS 1-7) Records Review Minutes:  
Professional (GS 8-12) Records Search Minutes:  
Professional (GS 8-12) Records Review Minutes:  
Managerial (GS 13 and up) Records Search Minutes:  
Managerial (GS 13 and up) Records Review Minutes:

Direct all questions and correspondence to [NPS\\_PWR\\_FOIA@nps.gov](mailto:NPS_PWR_FOIA@nps.gov).

Nancy

**NOTE: This correspondence is tracked, do not change subject information contained in brackets. Send replies to [NPS\\_PWR\\_FOIA@nps.gov](mailto:NPS_PWR_FOIA@nps.gov)**

Nancy Hori  
Andrew S. Muñoz  
National Park Service  
Pacific West Region FOIA Office  
206-220-4249 phone

**We are committed to providing legendary customer service. Our goal is to make efficient use of our limited resources to provide the public and NPS employees with competent, responsive, timely, and courteous service. Please let us know how we can improve.**



**To:** Todd Willens[todd\_willens@ios.doi.gov]; Daniel Jorjani[daniel\_jorjani@ios.doi.gov]; Magallanes, Downey[downey\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov]; Williams, Timothy[timothy\_williams@ios.doi.gov]; Chambers, Micah[micah\_chambers@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]; Newell, Russell[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Rigas, Laura  
**Sent:** 2017-09-21T18:40:42-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd: Golden Gate Dog Management Plan Comms Plan and Press Release for review.  
**Received:** 2017-09-21T18:40:51-04:00  
[GOGA Dog Rule Process ReviewNext Steps Communications Plan \(1\).docx](#)  
[GOGA Dog Management Plan Draft Press release \(1\).docx](#)

Hi all --

Any issues with this roll-out plan or the comms materials? They need our feedback by Monday, please.

Thanks,

L

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Slayton, April <[april\\_slayton@nps.gov](mailto:april_slayton@nps.gov)>

**Date:** Thu, Sep 21, 2017 at 2:14 PM

**Subject:** Golden Gate Dog Management Plan Comms Plan and Press Release for review.

**To:** Laura Rigas <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)>, Paul Ross <[Paul\\_Ross@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Paul_Ross@ios.doi.gov)>, "Swift, Heather" <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)>, Russell Newell <[russell\\_newell@ios.doi.gov](mailto:russell_newell@ios.doi.gov)>, Jeremy Barnum <[jeremy\\_barnum@nps.gov](mailto:jeremy_barnum@nps.gov)>, "Olson, Jeffrey" <[jeffrey\\_olson@nps.gov](mailto:jeffrey_olson@nps.gov)>, Jennifer Wyse <[jennifer\\_wyse@nps.gov](mailto:jennifer_wyse@nps.gov)>, Maureen Foster <[maureen\\_foster@ios.doi.gov](mailto:maureen_foster@ios.doi.gov)>

Good afternoon,

As promised, attached is the draft communications plan and press release announcing the review team's report on the Golden Gate Dog Management Plan process. Note that the plan is targeted to a release on Wednesday, September 27.

If possible, since we need to align efforts among the DC office, regional office, and park, we would appreciate any feedback you have by Monday, September 25 so that materials can be finalized and appropriate briefing times set.

As always, we are happy to answer any questions you have on this issue.

Many thanks,

April

--

April Slayton

Assistant Director for Communications

National Park Service

Visit us at [www.nps.gov](http://www.nps.gov)

**To:** Russell Newell[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov]; Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Ross, Paul  
**Sent:** 2017-09-26T10:22:58-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd: Golden Gate Dog Management Plan Comms Plan and Press Release for review.  
**Received:** 2017-09-26T10:31:10-04:00  
[GOGA Dog Rule Process ReviewNext Steps Communications Plan \(1\).docx](#)  
[GOGA Dog Management Plan Draft Press release \(1\).docx](#)

Russell/Heather-

Release here on the Golden Gate Dog Management issue looks good to me. Not sure if this has been circulated yet to Todd and folks. NPS is hoping to send out at the Region level tomorrow, Sept 27. Thanks.

-Paul

\*\*\*\*\*

## Independent review panel finds personal email use did not influence Golden Gate National Recreation Area dog management planning

*National Park Service identifies next steps*

WASHINGTON - Today, the National Park Service released an independent review of the planning and rulemaking process for a new Dog Management Plan at Golden Gate National Recreation Area in the San Francisco Bay Area. In its report, the review team concluded that the use of personal email to conduct official business was inappropriate, but the emails they reviewed did not influence the outcome of the planning and rulemaking process. The report and the information that the review team considered are available to the public [here](#).

In January, the Park Service asked an independent group of experts in government planning efforts to review the use of personal email accounts for official communications related to the Dog Management Plan planning and rulemaking process. Supporting their conclusion, the team noted that the proposed rule did not reflect the opinions expressed in the personal emails in question, suggesting that those emails did not influence the outcome of the rulemaking process. In addition, the team observed that many factors beyond the emails, particularly scientific analyses and substantive comments over a long period of time, are reflected in the outcomes of the planning and rulemaking process.

“The unacceptable conduct revealed in the personal emails has understandably put the dog management planning process under scrutiny,” said Michael Reynolds, acting director of the National Park Service. “Moving forward, we will ensure a transparent process consistent with Secretary Zinke’s commitment to ethical behavior and protecting recreational access in our parks.”

The scope of the review team’s report focused on a factual evaluation of whether the use of personal email accounts for receiving and transmitting work-related messages may have affected the planning and rulemaking process, or the conclusions of the environmental review. It included email messages from several Park Service employees that originated from personal

email accounts.

After the use of personal email for official communications was discovered, the National Park Service took several steps to educate staff about the importance of conducting official business using official email accounts. In May, a memo from acting Director Reynolds was sent to every agency employee to highlight the importance of ethical behavior and appropriate use of email.

The National Park Service has accepted the findings of the report and its recommendations. They included taking steps to prevent inappropriate use of personal email, preparing a decision document outlining all of the elements that were determining factors in the recommended decision, and providing the public with an additional comment period on the draft record of decision.

In the coming months, Golden Gate National Recreation Area will resume the planning process by publishing its environmental review draft record of decision and providing the public another opportunity to comment.

**Paul R. Ross**

Senior Public Affairs Specialist  
Office of Communications  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
Office: (202) 501-4633 | Cell: (202) 507-1689

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Slayton, April** <[april\\_slayton@nps.gov](mailto:april_slayton@nps.gov)>  
Date: Thu, Sep 21, 2017 at 2:14 PM  
Subject: Golden Gate Dog Management Plan Comms Plan and Press Release for review.  
To: Laura Rigas <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)>, Paul Ross <[Paul\\_Ross@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Paul_Ross@ios.doi.gov)>, "Swift, Heather" <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)>, Russell Newell <[russell\\_newell@ios.doi.gov](mailto:russell_newell@ios.doi.gov)>, Jeremy Barnum <[jeremy\\_barnum@nps.gov](mailto:jeremy_barnum@nps.gov)>, "Olson, Jeffrey" <[jeffrey\\_olson@nps.gov](mailto:jeffrey_olson@nps.gov)>, Jennifer Wyse <[jennifer\\_wyse@nps.gov](mailto:jennifer_wyse@nps.gov)>, Maureen Foster <[maureen\\_foster@ios.doi.gov](mailto:maureen_foster@ios.doi.gov)>

Good afternoon,

As promised, attached is the draft communications plan and press release announcing the review team's report on the Golden Gate Dog Management Plan process. Note that the plan is targeted to a release on Wednesday, September 27.

If possible, since we need to align efforts among the DC office, regional office, and park, we would appreciate any feedback you have by Monday, September 25 so that materials can be finalized and appropriate briefing times set.

As always, we are happy to answer any questions you have on this issue.

Many thanks,

April

--

April Slayton  
Assistant Director for Communications  
National Park Service  
Visit us at [www.nps.gov](http://www.nps.gov)

**To:** Todd Willens[todd\_willens@ios.doi.gov]; Larrabee, Jason[jason\_larrabee@ios.doi.gov]; Benjamin Cassidy[benjamin\_cassidy@ios.doi.gov]; todd\_wynn@ios.doi.gov[todd\_wynn@ios.doi.gov]; Chambers, Micah[micah\_chambers@ios.doi.gov]; Daniel Jorjani[daniel\_jorjani@ios.doi.gov]; Scott Hommel[scott\_hommel@ios.doi.gov]; Magallanes, Downey[downey\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]; Newell, Russell[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Rigas, Laura  
**Sent:** 2017-10-18T17:31:56-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd: Golden Gate Dog Rule News Release and Comms Plan  
**Received:** 2017-10-18T17:32:24-04:00  
[GOGA Dog Rule Process Review%2FNext Steps Communications Plan.docx](#)  
[GOGA Dog Rule Process Review%2FNext Steps Communications Plan.docx](#)

Hi all --

We are still going through the materials, but any objection to the Golden Gate "Dog Park" release going out tomorrow?

Welcome edits and any feedback.

Thanks,

L

*Laura Keehner Rigas  
Communications Director  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 897-7022 cell  
@Interior*

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Barnum, Jeremy <[jeremy\\_barnum@nps.gov](mailto:jeremy_barnum@nps.gov)>  
**Date:** Wed, Oct 18, 2017 at 3:16 PM  
**Subject:** Golden Gate Dog Rule News Release and Comms Plan  
**To:** Paul Ross <[paul\\_ross@ios.doi.gov](mailto:paul_ross@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Cc:** Russell Newell <[russell\\_newell@ios.doi.gov](mailto:russell_newell@ios.doi.gov)>, Laura Rigas <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)>, Heather Swift <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)>, April Slayton <[april\\_slayton@nps.gov](mailto:april_slayton@nps.gov)>, Jeffrey Olson <[jeffrey\\_olson@nps.gov](mailto:jeffrey_olson@nps.gov)>

Paul,

Please see the attached proposed news release and comms plan announcing the termination of the dog management rulemaking process at Golden Gate National Recreation Area.

Per our conversation, we've been asked to put this out ASAP, and would like to release tomorrow if possible.

These documents are being shared to DOI policy folks and the Solicitors for their review as well.

Please let me know if you have any questions and apologies for the short fuse request.

Best,

Jeremy K. Barnum  
Acting Chief of Public Affairs  
National Park Service  
Office: (202) 513-7262



**To:** Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]; Laura Rigas[laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov]; Scott Hommel[scott\_hommel@ios.doi.gov]; Downey Magallanes[downey\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Willens, Todd  
**Sent:** 2017-09-30T09:29:52-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd: Investigative Reporter Reaching Out w/ Urgent Query re: Susan LaPierre  
**Received:** 2017-09-30T09:30:28-04:00

FYI. I am likely sharing something you are already aware of. Just making sure though.

Todd Willens  
Assistant Deputy Secretary  
Acting Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW -- MIB Room 6116  
Washington, DC 20240  
office: 202-208-6291

NOTE: *Every email I send or receive is subject to release under the Freedom of Information Act.*

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Michael Reynolds <[michael\\_reynolds@nps.gov](mailto:michael_reynolds@nps.gov)>  
**Date:** Fri, Sep 29, 2017 at 4:34 PM  
**Subject:** Fwd: Investigative Reporter Reaching Out w/ Urgent Query re: Susan LaPierre  
**To:** Todd Willens <[todd\\_willens@ios.doi.gov](mailto:todd_willens@ios.doi.gov)>

Just FYI. DOI is in the loop.

Sent from my iPhone-sorry for typos.

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Michael Spies <[mspies@thetrace.org](mailto:mspies@thetrace.org)>  
**Date:** September 29, 2017 at 4:20:56 PM EDT  
**To:** "Slayton, April" <[april\\_slayton@nps.gov](mailto:april_slayton@nps.gov)>  
**Cc:** Michael Reynolds <[michael\\_reynolds@nps.gov](mailto:michael_reynolds@nps.gov)>  
**Subject:** **Re: Investigative Reporter Reaching Out w/ Urgent Query re: Susan LaPierre**

The courtesy of a call would be nice. If you actually read the email I sent to Michael, which was fairly explicit, I clearly know who appoints board members. Similarly, if I thought it would be remotely useful to contact a flak at the Interior Department, I obviously would have done that. I don't mean to be rude, but it often feels like people in your position are deliberately trying to be unhelpful.  
Mike

On Fri, Sep 29, 2017 at 3:47 PM, Slayton, April <[april\\_slayton@nps.gov](mailto:april_slayton@nps.gov)> wrote:

Dear Mike,

I'm replying to you on behalf of Mike Reynolds, who is traveling this week. Appointments to the National Park Foundation Board are made by the Secretary of the Interior, so your questions about that process are best answered by the DOI Office of Communications. You can reach the team there at [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov).

Many thanks,  
April

--

April Slayton  
Assistant Director for Communications  
National Park Service  
Visit us at [www.nps.gov](http://www.nps.gov)

**From:** Michael Spies <[mspies@thetrace.org](mailto:mspies@thetrace.org)>  
**Date:** September 29, 2017 at 12:09:04 PM EDT  
**To:** <[Michael\\_Reynolds@nps.gov](mailto:Michael_Reynolds@nps.gov)>  
**Subject: Investigative Reporter Reaching Out w/ Urgent Query re: Susan LaPierre**

Dear Mr. Reynolds,

I'm a senior reporter at The Trace ([thetrace.org](http://thetrace.org)), which is an investigative reporting site that covers the gun issue and co-publishes stories with a number of national news outlets, including The New Yorker, Politico, Rolling Stone, and Newsweek. Last month, I broke the story about the appointment of Susan LaPierre (wife of Wayne, the NRA CEO), to the board of the Parks Foundation: <https://www.thetrace.org/2017/08/nra-parks-department-interior-zinke-alaska/>.

I'm still seeking more information on her appointment. I find it odd, for example, that her bio makes no mention of the NRA: <https://www.nationalparks.org/sites/default/files/susan-lapierre.pdf>. It does mention the Women's Leadership Forum, as if it were a standalone entity, which it is not. It's actually called the NRA Women's Leadership Forum, and its chief function is to raise money for the NRA from wealthy women: <http://www.nrawlf.com/>.

Over the spring, when I learned about Susan's appointment, I filed a FOIA request seeking more information about it. That request was fulfilled the other week. If you didn't know, Susan is absolutely not a noted conservationist, and, like her husband, she absolutely does not hunt,

and probably does not fish or hike either. The records show that Susan was officially appointed the day before the NRA's April Annual Meeting, where Zinke was slated to speak at the Leadership forum. The records also show that there were backchannel conversations between Chris Cox, the NRA's top lobbyist, and new appointees in the Interior Department about Susan's appointment.

To be frank: much of this doesn't add up or make sense to me, and it feels like there's something bigger going on. If you have any time today, please call me on my cell. I think we should talk. Here's the number: (b) (6) . Would be happy to meet you in person.

Best,  
Mike Spies



**To:** Hinson, Alex[alex\_hinson@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Swift, Heather  
**Sent:** 2017-10-18T17:20:11-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd: Izembek  
**Received:** 2017-10-18T17:21:52-04:00

can you send her the statement?

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Erica Martinson** <[emartinson@alaskadispatch.com](mailto:emartinson@alaskadispatch.com)>  
Date: Wed, Oct 18, 2017 at 5:14 PM  
Subject: Izembek  
To: "Swift, Heather" <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)>

Hi Heather -

I'm looking to follow up on some information (confusingly portrayed) in that Sunday Washington Post story on the King Cove road. Do you have some time to discuss on the phone?

I've taken a look at the FOIA'd emails -- though I'm not sure I have the full trove of documents. Is there an easy way to request a copy of that FOIA? (I'm familiar with EPA's database, but it seems Interior's works differently.)

I'm generally interested in getting a response on current actions that Interior is taking to move this issue forward, and some insight on the legal possibilities of doing a land swap between the agency and the state, without an act of Congress. The way I'm reading these documents, it seems like it's legally possible, but quite time consuming. Is that correct?

Thanks,

Erica

--

Erica Martinson  
Washington, DC reporter

**Alaska Dispatch News**

cell: (b) (6)

[@EricaMartinson](#)

**To:** Russell Newell[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov]; Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Laura Rigas  
**Sent:** 2017-10-13T09:01:40-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd: Izembek  
**Received:** 2017-10-13T09:01:47-04:00

You guys looped into this? Not ringing a bell for me.

Laura Keehner Rigas  
Communications Director  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 897-7022 cell  
@Interior

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Shire, Gavin" <[gavin\\_shire@fws.gov](mailto:gavin_shire@fws.gov)>  
**Date:** October 13, 2017 at 8:59:58 AM EDT  
**To:** Heather Swift <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)>, Laura Rigas  
<[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)>, Paul Ross <[paul\\_ross@ios.doi.gov](mailto:paul_ross@ios.doi.gov)>, Russell Newell  
<[russell\\_newell@ios.doi.gov](mailto:russell_newell@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Izembek

FYI  
G

Gavin Shire  
Chief of Public Affairs  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
MS: EA  
5275 Leesburg Pike  
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803  
703-358-2649 (o)  
703-346-9123 (c)  
[gavin\\_shire@fws.gov](mailto:gavin_shire@fws.gov)

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Barbara Wainman <[barbara\\_wainman@fws.gov](mailto:barbara_wainman@fws.gov)>  
**Date:** Fri, Oct 13, 2017 at 8:24 AM  
**Subject:** Fwd: Izembek  
**To:** Gavin Shire <[gavin\\_shire@fws.gov](mailto:gavin_shire@fws.gov)>

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Jim Kurth <[jim\\_kurth@fws.gov](mailto:jim_kurth@fws.gov)>  
**Date:** October 12, 2017 at 8:40:12 PM EDT  
**To:** [barbara\\_wainman@fws.gov](mailto:barbara_wainman@fws.gov)  
**Subject:** Izembek

I understand that there will be a story on Izembek on Sat/Sun in the WaPo page 1. It will reference materials they received in FOIA.

Juliet's the reporter. I haven't spoken with her

Sent from my iPhone

**To:** heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Laura Rigas  
**Sent:** 2017-11-16T10:51:48-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd: July Visitor Logs  
**Received:** 2017-11-16T10:54:27-05:00  
[ATT00001.htm](#)  
[17-01013ca.pdf](#)

Laura Keehner Rigas  
Communications Director  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 897-7022 cell  
@Interior

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Howarth, Robert" <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)>  
**To:** Laura Rigas <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)>, Downey Magallanes  
<[downey\\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov](mailto:downey_magallanes@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Subject:** Fwd: July Visitor Logs

Hello. Attached is a FOIA Awareness before posting.

Rob

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Sweeney, Cynthia <[cynthia\\_sweeney@ios.doi.gov](mailto:cynthia_sweeney@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Date:** Thu, Nov 16, 2017 at 10:42 AM  
**Subject:** July Visitor Logs  
**To:** Robert Howarth <[Robert\\_Howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Robert_Howarth@ios.doi.gov)>

Hi Rob,

As requested, please see attached a copy of July visitor logs. Let me know if you need anything else.

Thanks,  
Cindy

--

**Cynthia Sweeney (Cindy)**

**Department of the Interior**  
**Office of the Secretary, FOIA Office**  
1849 C Street, NW, MS-7328  
Washington, D.C. 20240  
[Cynthia.Sweeney@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Cynthia.Sweeney@ios.doi.gov)

(202) 513-0765 - FOIA general phone line  
(202) 208-3552 - direct line  
(202) 219-2374 - fax

--

Robert Howarth  
Deputy Director for Correspondence and FOIA Management  
Office of the Executive Secretariat and Regulatory Affairs  
Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20240  
202-208-3181  
202-208-4451 (direct)  
202-549-8961 (cell)

**To:** Russell Newell[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov]; Nachmany, Eli[eli\_nachmany@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Swift, Heather  
**Sent:** 2017-12-21T09:12:25-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd: latest SO?  
**Received:** 2017-12-21T09:14:03-05:00  
[17 11 27 SOL COMBINED review of S O Critical Minerals.docx](#)

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** **Howarth, Robert** <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Date:** Thu, Dec 21, 2017 at 8:55 AM  
**Subject:** Re: latest SO?  
**To:** "Swift, Heather" <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)>

attached...it is in redline. Please accept all changes to make it clean.

Rob

On Thu, Dec 21, 2017 at 8:28 AM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

--

Robert Howarth  
Deputy Director for Correspondence and FOIA Management  
Office of the Executive Secretariat and Regulatory Affairs  
Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20240  
202-208-3181  
202-208-4451 (direct)  
202-549-8961 (cell)

**To:** Heather Swift[[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)]; Robert Howarth[[Robert\\_Howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Robert_Howarth@ios.doi.gov)]  
**From:** Lillie, Juliette  
**Sent:** 2017-08-02T13:00:20-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd: Leading by example: CMR Wildlife Refuge is a good neighbor in Montana  
**Received:** 2017-08-02T13:00:32-04:00

Heather: Rob forwarded your message to me. Here is the response to your questions:  
We left state in lower case because it is in a quote. In terms the article "the", we do not include it in the body of a sentence preceding an acronym except on rare occasion.

Juliette Lillie

Director Executive Secretariat and Regulatory Affairs  
Department of the Interior  
1849 C St. NW  
Washington DC 20240

Email: [juliette\\_lillie@ios.doi.gov](mailto:juliette_lillie@ios.doi.gov)  
Ph: 202-219-7724

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----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Swift, Heather** <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)>  
Date: Wed, Aug 2, 2017 at 11:31 AM  
Subject: Fwd: Leading by example: CMR Wildlife Refuge is a good neighbor in Montana  
To: "Howarth, Robert" <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)>

Hey there, Rob. Strange question but who is the person who does the grammar editing at Exec Sec? There's a number of irregularities in this. For instance, deleting "the" in front of CMR and then capitalizing S in state when not referring to the State of Montana as a governing body.

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
[@DOIPressSec](mailto:@DOIPressSec)  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Interior, Secretary** <[secretary\\_of\\_the\\_interior@ios.doi.gov](mailto:secretary_of_the_interior@ios.doi.gov)>  
Date: Wed, Aug 2, 2017 at 10:29 AM  
Subject: Leading by example: CMR Wildlife Refuge is a good neighbor in Montana  
To:





## U.S. Department of the Interior

Good morning. I want to take a few minutes to highlight the amazing work of a few members of the Department of the Interior family.

Last week, the team at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Charles M. Russell National Wildlife Refuge (CMR) in northeast Montana went above and beyond the call of duty when they, led by Refuge manager Paul Santavy, took quick action to open up CMR for emergency grazing for ranchers who lost land in the 270,000-acre Lodgepole Complex Fire.

While our Bureau of Land Management and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service fire crews were working with volunteers to battle the blaze, the team at CMR was hard at work with local ranchers, elected officials, and concerned citizens to come up with a solution to the massive loss of grazing land.

Families were facing a litany of bad options: calves going to market early and underweight, selling heifers from generations of working bloodlines, raising fewer calves next year, and the very real fear of knowing that some cattle still would not make it through the winter. Donations of hay were coming in from all over the State, but it was not enough to sustain thousands of cattle for several months.

One small bright spot that remained was CMR. The land, which was previously a ranch, had been grazed several years before and was now sitting there, a lush green oasis with a stable water supply in the midst of a charred desert.

A local farm equipment dealer wrote to me and the Service's Acting Director Greg Sheehan about opening up CMR. The equipment dealer did not have cattle, but many of her neighbors and customers did; she heard about their situation because every morning folks gather at her store at dawn for coffee.

The CMR management did not have to open the land to ranchers, but they did. The team at CMR felt strongly that they are as much a part of the community as those ranchers, and the CMR team was dedicated to proving that the Service and Department are good neighbors.

That is what is at the heart of this. We have a saying that "Montana is one small town with really long roads." The Department is a neighbor in that small town.

I have been able to visit many of you in Nevada, California, Utah, Colorado, Alaska, Virginia, Montana, and elsewhere. You have heard me talk about restoring trust between the Federal Government and local communities by being a good neighbor. The events at CMR are exactly what I mean.

I am so incredibly proud of the team at CMR and the Service's leadership. From the Refuge manager hosting public meetings and working with families on an individual basis, to the

rangers and public affairs officers assisting the efforts and getting the word out, everyone stepped up to the plate and hit it out of the park. The team in Washington, D.C. also played a key role in keeping open the lines of communication.

The Sunday paper had a story about CMR; a statement by a local rancher and farmer stuck with me: “They’re our heroes today. We’re just thankful the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service came to our aid. And everyone else, too. Everyone across the nation and the support from across the state. It’s overwhelming. Garfield County just wants to give a big thank you to everyone who is supporting us.”

That is the reaction I want us to earn every day.

I applaud the quick work and flexibility of the team at CMR for getting this done for the community in a compliant manner. Their example is an example to all of us.

Every day we hear of a rancher, or a mom-and-pop guide shop, or a local official who is looking for our help with an allotment, access to land, or a permit. I know you are all working hard on your normal day-to-day duties, and many times there is nothing we can do. Once in a while, though, we can help and we can change the outcome for one community. That is a win.

Thank you for all you do.

Ryan K. Zinke  
Secretary of the Interior

--

Robert Howarth  
Deputy Director for Correspondence and FOIA Management  
Office of the Executive Secretariat and Regulatory Affairs  
Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20240  
202-208-3181  
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**To:** Daniel Jorjani[daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov]  
**From:** Swift, Heather  
**Sent:** 2017-10-17T10:02:30-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd: Legal Advice Re. FOIA Request  
**Received:** 2017-10-17T10:03:17-04:00

FYI

-

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Lurie, Maria <[maria.lurie@sol.doi.gov](mailto:maria.lurie@sol.doi.gov)>  
**Date:** Tue, Oct 17, 2017 at 9:21 AM  
**Subject:** Legal Advice Re. FOIA Request  
**To:** Heather Swift <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)>

Dear Ms. Swift:

I am an attorney in the Office of the Solicitor. I am contacting you at the request of Tim Murphy, the Assistant Solicitor for the Branch of General Legal Services. Mr. Murphy has advised me that he has determined that the FOIA request recently received for 30-days worth of your emails is one which the Department must respond to, given that the scope is clearly identified in terms of the date range and subject matter.

I would expect the process to unfold like this: the responsive records would be provided to the OS FOIA Office, headed by Clarice Julka. Ms. Julka's shop would then review the records to ascertain whether any of the information may be redacted pursuant to a FOIA exemption. (For example, there may be information that would be subject to redaction under FOIA Exemption 6, which protects personal privacy interests. Likewise, there may be information subject to withholding under the deliberative process privilege of FOIA Exemption 5.) If Ms. Julka's shop determines that redactions are in order, the proposed redactions are then reviewed by an attorney in the Branch of General Legal Services to confirm that there is a legal basis to assert the proposed FOIA exemptions. Once an attorney signs off on the use of the exemptions, Ms. Julka's shop would then make a release that explains why certain information is being redacted pursuant to the FOIA.

Should you have any concerns about this matter, please contact me at your convenience. Also, please note that I have left a voicemail for you on 208.5338, concerning this same topic.

Regards,

**Maria Lurie**  
Attorney-Advisor  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
Office of the Solicitor  
Division of General Law

2

02.208.7272 (direct dial)

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**To:** heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov];  
laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov[laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Downey Magallanes  
**Sent:** 2017-12-13T13:22:13-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd: Litigation Release Review  
**Received:** 2017-12-13T13:26:05-05:00

This will be released in next few days. I will find it exact day. Would suggest looking through.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Howarth, Robert" <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Date:** December 13, 2017 at 1:18:39 PM EST  
**To:** Downey Magallanes <[downey\\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov](mailto:downey_magallanes@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Subject: Re: Litigation Release Review**

will circle back

On Wed, Dec 13, 2017 at 1:17 PM, Downey Magallanes  
<[downey\\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov](mailto:downey_magallanes@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Mrs. Zinke's personal email is in the package on the 4th of July invites. Will this be redacted?

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 12, 2017, at 1:59 PM, Howarth, Robert <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Hello. Attached is a FOIA ping for a litigation production scheduled for release. The incoming requests are the last two docs.

Rob

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Fairman, Leah <[leah\\_fairman@ios.doi.gov](mailto:leah_fairman@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Date:** Tue, Dec 12, 2017 at 11:51 AM  
**Subject:** Litigation Release Review  
**To:** Robert Howarth <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)>

Hi Rob,

I was uncertain the official procedure for the review, so am sending over to you.

Can send to whomever else is needed, just let me know.

These are documents for OS-2017-00659 and OS-2017-00707. This is a second partial response to litigation, and have been cleared by SOL office.

Our deadline to respond to the requester with this set, is this Friday, December 15th.

Thanks!

Leah

--

Leah Fairman  
Department of the Interior  
Office of the Secretary, FOIA Office  
[1849 C Street, NW](#), MS-7328  
Washington, D.C. 20240  
[Leah\\_Fairman@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Leah_Fairman@ios.doi.gov)  
(202) 513-0765 - phone  
(202) 565-1076 - direct line  
(202) 219-2374 - fax

--

Robert Howarth  
Deputy Director for Correspondence and FOIA Management  
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Department of the Interior  
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Washington, DC 20240  
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202-549-8961 (cell)

<April Calendar.pdf>

<June Calendar (June 1-20).pdf>

<March Calendar.pdf>

<May Calendar.pdf>

<1.1 Secretary\_s RSVP.pdf>

<FOIA\_OS-2017-00707(part 1).pdf>

<FOIA\_OS-2017-00707(part 2).pdf>

<17-00707qa.pdf>

<17-00659qa.pdf>

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Robert Howarth  
Deputy Director for Correspondence and FOIA Management  
Office of the Executive Secretariat and Regulatory Affairs  
Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20240  
202-208-3181  
202-208-4451 (direct)  
202-549-8961 (cell)

**To:** Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Crandall, Megan  
**Sent:** 2017-07-26T12:26:24-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd: MEDIA INQUIRY: Center for Biological Diversity lawsuit  
**Received:** 2017-07-26T12:26:31-04:00

Hi, Heather. I already responded to the reporter that we don't offer comment on issues pertaining to pending litigation, but I wanted to share this with you since it looks like the story based on the CBD release will have a negative tone.

M

----- Forwarded message -----

Hello,

I'm writing an article on the amended lawsuit by Center for Biological Diversity against the BLM, and now the DOI, concerning the agency's alleged failure to release certain public documents. I've attached a link to the release below. In a follow up phone call, a spokesperson for the environmental group told me that the failure to respond or release information concerning the FOIA request was due to Sec. Zinke exerting more control over the agency.

He said, specifically:

"Their lack of response and our continued outreach to them clearly indicates that they don't want to answer us or they are clearly incompetent."

"While I don't know this, I suspect that the Department of the Interior has been told at higher up levels to not deal with these things or to deal with them in a very specific way."

I'm putting this out by 1 p.m., so it would be great to hear from you by then.

Best,

--

Joshua Learn  
Reporter, Coal  
S&P Global Market Intelligence  
S&P Global

(b) (6)  
[Josh.Learn@spglobal.com](mailto:Josh.Learn@spglobal.com)

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--

**Megan M. Crandall**  
Bureau of Land Management  
Communications

Ph: 801-539-4018

Cell: 385-315-5271

Fax: 801-539-4013

**Join the Conversation!**



**To:** Nedra Darling[nedra\_darling@ios.doi.gov]; Hinson, Alex[alex\_hinson@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Swift, Heather  
**Sent:** 2017-09-26T15:50:12-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd: Media request--Billings Gazette  
**Received:** 2017-09-26T16:16:46-04:00  
[FtPeckWinoRoundup.pdf](#)

Nedra - any insight?

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** **Matt Hudson** <[MHudson@billingsgazette.com](mailto:MHudson@billingsgazette.com)>  
**Date:** Tue, Sep 26, 2017 at 3:44 PM  
**Subject:** Media request--Billings Gazette  
**To:** "[Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)" <[Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Cc:** "Darling, Nedra" <[nedra\\_darling@ios.doi.gov](mailto:nedra_darling@ios.doi.gov)>

Hello,

I'm a reporter at the Billings Gazette. I'm following up on an incident known to some as the "Wino Roundup" on the Fort Peck Reservation in 2013. The BIA Internal Affairs Division investigated the incident, and a report (attached for reference) sustained civil rights violation allegations.

Now a civil lawsuit from the incident will likely be dismissed (U.S. District Court case no. cv-16-85).

Now I am following up with the BIA. Here are my questions:

-What action, if any, did the BIA take following the IAD report that I attached?

-The IAD report found careless/negligent performance by law enforcement personnel in this case. What, if any, consequences came to Michael Headdress, Elaine Boyd, James Combs and Elizabeth Chase, all of whom were named in the report.

-When were these consequences carried out?

-What, if any, action was taken toward the people who were detained in this case after the report was released?

Please contact me if I can help in any way.

Thank you,

Matt Hudson

Billings Gazette

406-657-1314

[mhudson@billingsgazette.com](mailto:mhudson@billingsgazette.com)

**To:** Laura Rigas[laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov]; Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Boulton, Caroline  
**Sent:** 2017-11-28T18:34:21-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd: Modified: Enterprise Rent-A-Car Reservation 1025672230 at Billings Logan Airport(BIL)  
**Received:** 2017-11-28T18:35:53-05:00

FOIA on RZ emails is going to be released soon; it includes an email from me regarding his travel to Whitefish after the conclusion of the Billings event with VPOTUS that states that he must reimburse the government for the rental car/gas to Whitefish from Billings. He ended up renting his own car that he paid for personally; this is the confirmation. Downey + Mike wanted you to have it ahead of release just in case.

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Caroline Boulton <(b) (6)>  
**Date:** Tue, Nov 28, 2017 at 6:30 PM  
**Subject:** Fwd: Modified: Enterprise Rent-A-Car Reservation 1025672230 at Billings Logan Airport(BIL)  
**To:** Caroline Boulton <[caroline\\_boulton@ios.doi.gov](mailto:caroline_boulton@ios.doi.gov)>

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Enterprise Rent-A-Car <[No-Reply@enterprise.com](mailto:No-Reply@enterprise.com)>  
**Date:** Fri, May 12, 2017 at 2:55 PM  
**Subject:** Modified: Enterprise Rent-A-Car Reservation 1025672230 at Billings Logan Airport(BIL)  
**To:** (b) (6)

# YOUR RESERVATION IS CONFIRMED

Thank you for your reservation.  
Your confirmation number is 1025672230.

## Pick-Up Details

<b>Location</b>	Billings Logan Airport(BIL)
<b>Date &amp; Time</b>	Friday, May 12, 2017 @ 6:30 PM
<b>Address</b>	1901 Terminal Cir

[Billings, MT 59105](#)

Phone [4062942930](#)

Hours Friday: 6:30 AM - 11:59 PM

## Return Details

Location Kalispell Airport (Offsite)(FCA)

Date & Time Saturday, May 13, 2017 @ 2:00 PM

Address 2177 Us Highway 2 E  
[Kalispell, MT 59901](#)

Phone [4067554848](#)

Hours Saturday: 9:00 AM - 7:00 PM

## Renter Details

Name RYAN ZINKE

E-mail Address (b) (6)

Phone (b) (6)

## Save Time At the Counter

[Provide additional information now and save time when you arrive.](#)

## Pricing Details

Vehicle Class Nissan Versa or Similar

Transmission Type Automatic

Rates

Vehicle

TIME & DISTANCE	1 DAILY @ \$24.36	\$24.36
-----------------	-------------------	---------

**Extras**

Unlimited Mileage		Included
-------------------	--	----------

**Taxes & Fees**

DROP FEE		\$175.05
CUSTOMER FACILITY CHARGE 3.00/DAY		\$3.00
CONCESSION FEE 11.10 PCT		\$22.45
MT RENTAL VEHICLE TAX 4 PCT		\$1.09
VEH LICENSE RECOUPMENT 2.85/DAY		\$2.85

**Estimated Total**

**\$228.80**

[VIEW / MODIFY / CANCEL](#)

**Follow these directions to get to the counter**

No shuttle required.

The Enterprise counter is near the baggage claim in the main terminal.

The vehicles are within walking distance.

Please proceed to the Enterprise counter to obtain your rental agreement and keys.

**Additional Driver**

Additional drivers must meet same rental qualifications as the renter, except spouse or domestic partner.

Additional drivers must appear at the rental counter with the primary renter. There will be an additional charge of \$10 per day for each additional authorized driver other than a spouse or domestic partner, unless other contractual

conditions apply. Additional drivers must be 21 or older.

### **After Hours Service**

RETURN VEHICLE TO AIRPORT IN THE PARKING SPACES WHERE IT WAS PICKED UP. PLACE KEYS IN THE DROP BOX AT THE ENTERPRISE COUNTER LOCATED NEAR BAGGAGE CLAIM.

### **Damage Waiver**

Damage waiver DW for this branch is 22.99 and 29.99 per day. - DW is offered at the time of rental for an additional daily charge. If the renter accepts DW, enterprise waives or reduces the renters responsibility for loss of, or damage to, the rental vehicle including but not limited to towing, storage, loss of use, administrative fees and-or diminishment of value subject to the terms and conditions of the rental agreement and applicable laws. DW is not insurance. The purchase of DW is optional and not required to rent a car. The protection provided by DW may duplicate the renters existing coverage. Enterprise is not qualified to evaluate the adequacy of the renters existing coverage- therefore the renter should examine his or her credit card protections, automobile insurance policies or other sources of coverage that may duplicate the protection provided by DW.

### **Refueling Service**

As a customer, you have a choice as to how you would like to pay for fuel. Option 1- Prepay Fuel This option allows the renter to pay for the tank of gas at the time of rental and return the tank empty. No refunds will be issued for unused gas. Option 2 - We Refill This option allows the renter to pay Enterprise at the end of the rental for gas used but not replaced. Price per gallon will be higher than local fuel prices. Option 3- You Refill This option allows the renter to return the vehicle with the same amount of gas as received to avoid extra fuel charges.

### **Driver's License Information**

Customers who reside in the United States, U.S. Territories, or Canada Customers who reside in the U.S., U.S. Territories, or Canada must present a valid, unexpired government-issued Driver's license which includes a photograph of the customer. Digital licenses are not accepted. The driver's license must be valid for the entire rental period. Members of the United States Armed Forces who are on active duty may present an expired home state license under the following conditions: They also present an Active Military ID, and They are in compliance with their military extension policy of the state which issued the license. These policies vary by state and customers are encouraged to check with the appropriate department of motor vehicles for more information. Customers travelling to the U.S. and Canada from other countries It is important that customers check with the appropriate Department of Motor Vehicles in the States or Provinces in which they intend to travel to ensure compliance with their various licensing laws. The following practices are used to ensure the customer is presenting a facially valid license at the time of rental. Customers traveling to the United States and Canada from another country must present the following: Their home country driver's license, and If the home country license is in a language other than English (or French, for rentals in Canada) and the letters are English (i.e. German, Spanish, etc.) an International Driver's Permit is recommended, but not required, for translation purposes in addition to the home country license. If the home country license is in a language other than English and the letters are not English (i.e. alphabet is not an extended Latin-based alphabet like German or Spanish but is Russian, Japanese, Arabic, etc.) an International Driver's Permit is required. If an International Driver's permit cannot be obtained in the home country, another professional, type-written translation may be substituted. In either case the home country license must also be presented. Customers may not rent a vehicle solely with the International Driver's Permit. The International Driver's Permit is a translation of the individual's home country license and is not considered a license nor is it considered valid identification. In some locations, including but not limited to offices in Arizona, California, Georgia, New Mexico, Nevada, and Texas, customers may be asked to provide additional valid government-issued documentation. Other requirements Photocopies of Driver's Licenses are not accepted "Learner's Permits" are not accepted. Any license which, on its face, restricts the licensee to the use and operation of a vehicle equipped with a form of a breathalyzer apparatus is not accepted. Temporary Driver's Licenses may be refused if the renting location is unable to otherwise verify the customer's identity or verify the authenticity of the temporary license. Additional Government-issued identification may be required.

### **Forms of Payment**

The following forms of payment are accepted at the end of the rental. VISA® MasterCard® American Express® Discover Network® Debit Card Prepaid Cards Money Order Please read the Renter Requirements Policy for details pertaining to deposits and general rental requirements at this location. Additional authorizations from your

account will be obtained to cover the cost of the rental charges. Enterprise is not responsible for any overdraft fees incurred.

### **Roadside Protection**

If accepted, Roadside Assistance Protection provides the renter with 24/7 roadside assistance, where available, without additional charge. RAP includes the following benefits: replacement of lost keys, including remote entry devices; flat tire service, If no inflated spare is available, the vehicle will be towed. The cost of replacement tire is not covered by RAP; lockout service, if keys are locked inside the vehicle; jumpstarts; fuel delivery service for up to 3 gallons, or equivalent liters, of fuel if vehicle is out of fuel. RAP services only are available in the United States and Canada. Roadside Assistance Protection is void and of no effect if, at the time of the incident necessitating roadside assistance, the renter or any authorized driver were in violation of the rental agreement, including, without limitation, the prohibited uses and violations set forth therein. In such cases, roadside assistance will be available, but standard charges may apply. In New York, California, Nevada and Kansas the cost of the key will not be covered, only the service to deliver the key or perform the lockout service will be covered. Roadside Assistance Protection at this location costs between \$3.99 and \$6.99.

### **Renter Requirements**

All renters and additional drivers must be 21 or older, have a valid driver's license and a major credit card in their name. Driver's licenses are accepted from any USA state or territory, from a Canadian province or from an international country. Licenses from outside the USA or Canada also may require an international driver's permit. International driver's permits are valid only if presented with the original local license. International renters require a valid passport; the name on the passport must match the name on the driver's license. Individuals with learner's permits are not eligible to rent. U.S. government employees ages 18 or older will not incur a young driver surcharge when renting for authorized government travel. This is only a summary. For additional details, please reference the Driver's License Information Policy. AGE – The underage surcharge for drivers between the ages of 21 and 24 is \$15 per day. Renters between the ages of 21 and 24 may rent the following vehicle classes: Economy through Full Size cars. NON CREDIT CARD DEPOSITS – Debit cards, prepaid cards and money orders are accepted at time of rental with a round trip travel ticket, e-ticket or travel itinerary that shows the renter's name and discloses the return date and port of entry. Debit cards, prepaid cards and money orders are accepted at the time of rental with current copies of any two of the following bill (dated within the last 30 days and with no past due balances): telephone bill, electric bill, gas bill, sewer bill or water in the renter's name, with his or her current address. The renter's name and address must match their driver's license, and their driver's license must have been issued from the state from which the rental is taking place. DEPOSIT AMOUNTS – A deposit including an additional 20 percent more than the cost of the rental will be taken at the time of rental, and the funds will not be available for use until after the vehicle has been returned. Cash is not an acceptable form of rental deposit. This location is not responsible for any overdraft fees incurred.

### **Supplemental Liability Protection**

SUPPLEMENTAL LIABILITY PROTECTION (SLP) FOR THIS BRANCH IS \$11.99 PER DAY. - SUPPLEMENTAL LIABILITY PROTECTION -SLP- IS OFFERED AT THE TIME OF RENTAL FOR AN ADDITIONAL DAILY CHARGE. IF ACCEPTED, SLP PROVIDES THE RENTER AND AUTHORIZED DRIVERS WITH UP TO \$1,000,000 COMBINED SINGLE LIMIT FOR THIRD PARTY LIABILITY CLAIMS. IF THE RENTER ACCEPTS SLP, ENTERPRISE PROVIDES THIRD PARTY LIABILITY PROTECTION UP TO THE APPLICABLE MINIMUM FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY LIMIT AND EMPIRE FIRE AND MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY PROVIDES EXCESS THIRD PARTY LIABILITY INSURANCE COVERAGE FROM THE APPLICABLE MINIMUM FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY LIMIT TO \$1,000,000. THIS IS A SUMMARY ONLY. SLP IS SUBJECT TO THE TERMS, CONDITIONS, PROVISIONS, LIMITATIONS AND EXCLUSIONS IN THE SUPPLEMENTAL RENTAL LIABILITY INSURANCE EXCESS POLICY UNDERWRITTEN BY EMPIRE FIRE AND MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY. THE PURCHASE OF SLP IS OPTIONAL AND NOT REQUIRED TO RENT A CAR. THE COVERAGE PROVIDED BY SLP MAY DUPLICATE THE RENTER'S EXISTING COVERAGE. ENTERPRISE IS NOT QUALIFIED TO EVALUATE THE ADEQUACY OF THE RENTER'S EXISTING COVERAGE; THEREFORE THE RENTER SHOULD EXAMINE HIS OR HER PERSONAL INSURANCE POLICIES OR OTHER SOURCES OF COVERAGE THAT MAY DUPLICATE THE COVERAGE PROVIDED BY SLP.

### **Toll Pass Policy**

If you or any driver operate the rental vehicle in the following areas, and generate an unpaid toll, you will be charged:

- TPD area (Northeast U.S. except MA): TollPass Transponder Service of \$3.95 for each rental day plus the cost of all unpaid tolls. The maximum TollPass Device Charge for the rental period is \$19.75, plus the cost of all unpaid tolls.
- TPD area (Massachusetts) – there is no option to pay cash on any Massachusetts toll road Travel both within and outside of MA: TOLLPASS TRANSPONDER SERVICE of \$3.95 for each rental day plus the cost of all unpaid tolls. The maximum TollPass Device Charge for the rental period is \$19.75, plus the cost of all unpaid tolls. Travel within MA only: TOLLPASS CONVENIENCE CHARGE of \$3.95 for each day you use a toll road or bridge plus the cost of all unpaid tolls. The maximum TollPass Convenience charge for the rental period is \$19.75, plus the cost of all unpaid tolls.
- TPW area (Chicago): Tollpass Transponder Service of \$9.99 for each rental day at the airport locations and \$7.99 for each rental day at all other participating locations. The cost of tolls is included in the daily charge.
- TCC area (Northern CA, CO, GA, FL, TX, NC, PR, WA in the U.S. / Toronto and Vancouver in Canada): TollPass Convenience Charge of \$3.95 for each day you use a toll road or bridge plus the cost of all unpaid tolls. The maximum TollPass Device Charge for the rental period is \$19.75, plus the cost of all unpaid tolls.
- TCC area (Southern CA): TollPass Convenience Charge of \$3.95 for each day you use the 73, 133, 241 or 261 toll roads or bridges plus the cost of all unpaid tolls. The maximum TollPass Convenience Charge for the rental period is \$19.75, plus the cost of all unpaid tolls.

For more information, please visit [www.htallc.com](http://www.htallc.com) or call [1-877-860-1258](tel:1-877-860-1258). If you or any driver operate the rental vehicle in areas not served by TollPass and generate any unpaid toll(s) then you will be charged for all unpaid tolls and an administrative charge of up to \$25.00 per rental. For additional information regarding participating TollPass locations, please visit the TollPass Program Overview on our website. This can be found by searching 'TollPass' in the Help/Support section. Toll Road Usage Program: [www.htallc.com/tollpass](http://www.htallc.com/tollpass) Espanol: [www.es.htallc.com/tollpass](http://www.es.htallc.com/tollpass) Francais: [www.fr.htallc.com/tollpass](http://www.fr.htallc.com/tollpass) Portugues: [www.pt.htallc.com/tollpass](http://www.pt.htallc.com/tollpass)

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Special Assistant to the Secretary  
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**To:** Heather swift[Heather\_Swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Carlton, Jim  
**Sent:** 2017-09-14T14:43:59-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd: National Monuments Announcement Update  
**Received:** 2017-09-14T14:52:18-04:00  
[WVP DOI FOIA 20170913-01 \(BC and NRA\).pdf](#)

fyi, looks like they've caught wind of this announcement but are assuming it's on the monument review thing.

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Jayson O'Neill <[jayson@westernvaluesproject.org](mailto:jayson@westernvaluesproject.org)>  
**Date:** Thu, Sep 14, 2017 at 11:41 AM  
**Subject:** National Monuments Announcement Update  
**To:** Jayson O'Neill <[jayson@westernvaluesproject.org](mailto:jayson@westernvaluesproject.org)>  
**Cc:** Chris Saeger <[chris@westernvaluesproject.org](mailto:chris@westernvaluesproject.org)>

Dear Reporters,

It's been widely rumored that the Trump Administration will act on Secretary of the Interior Ryan Zinke's recommendations to shrink some of the national monuments that were under review **tomorrow**.

While the document as remained a secret for over three weeks and it's still unclear which monuments are on the chopping block, two organizations are believed to be working with the administration and Secretary Zinke to provide political cover for this extremely [unpopular](#) decision. Based on that information, a Freedom of Information Act was filed for communication between the Boone and Crockett Club, National Rifle Association and the Department of the Interior by the Western Values Project (attached).

If Secretary Zinke's recommendations are acted upon, this will be the single largest elimination of protections for wildlife habitat in U.S. history resulting in a massive reduction in the quality and quantity of hunting and fishing opportunities on public lands.

It should be noted that according to the [Congressional Research Service](#), every monuments proclamation under review explicitly affirm the continued jurisdiction of the state to regulate wildlife, including hunting and fishing.

**Questions for Boone and Crockett Club and National Rifle Association:**

Are you working with the White House and Secretary Zinke on the national monuments review and reduction announcement?

Do your members support the reduction of national monument areas and the public land protections that are associated with a national monument designation?

Recreational hunting and fishing is allowed in all national monuments under review except Castle Mountains National Monument and every monument proclamation explicitly affirm the states jurisdiction to regulate wildlife. Does your organization support the federal government's attempt to supersede states wildlife management jurisdiction?

Increased energy development, mining, and logging are believed to be the bases for the reductions which would impact access for hunting and fishing, wildlife, and water quality and quantity. How does your organization's support for this announcement comport with your membership that is dominated by hunters and anglers?

Please feel free to contact us with any questions.

Sincerely,

Jayson O'Neill

Deputy Director of the [Western Values Project](#)  
[jayson@westernvaluesproject.org](mailto:jayson@westernvaluesproject.org)  
@Western\_Values

--

Jim Carlton

The Wall Street Journal

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**To:** Laura Rigas[laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov]; Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]; Russell Newell[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov]; Ross, Paul[paul\_ross@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Gavin Shire[gavin\_shire@fws.gov]; Huggler, Matthew[matthew\_huggler@fws.gov]; Charisa Morris[charisa\_morris@fws.gov]  
**From:** Wainman, Barbara  
**Sent:** 2017-12-19T10:55:46-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd: New Process - High Interest/Media Requests  
**Received:** 2017-12-19T10:56:16-05:00

Laura in response to last week's elephant issue Gavin has already met with our FOIA folks and taken this step to improve the process. He and I are going to be meeting with them on a regular basis to stay in close coordination with them. We got the most updated FOIA report and to give you an idea of the magnitude there are 405 open FOIA requests so it is no small task but we are working to improve the process. I have also begun talking to our Chief of Staff about how this process works and we are looking at some more systemic changes as well. We will keep you posted of anything we think may hit the media that would be of interest to you all.

Barbara W. Wainman  
Assistant Director, External Affairs  
US Fish and Wildlife Service  
(202) 208-5256 (office)  
(571) 471-4159 (cell)

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Hyde-Michaels, Carrie <[carrie\\_hyde-michaels@fws.gov](mailto:carrie_hyde-michaels@fws.gov)>  
**Date:** Tue, Dec 19, 2017 at 10:21 AM  
**Subject:** New Process - High Interest/Media Requests  
**To:** FWS FOIA Coordinators <[fws\\_foia\\_coordinators@fws.gov](mailto:fws_foia_coordinators@fws.gov)>  
**Cc:** Kenneth Taylor <[kenneth\\_taylor@fws.gov](mailto:kenneth_taylor@fws.gov)>, Shelley Hartmann <[shelley\\_hartmann@fws.gov](mailto:shelley_hartmann@fws.gov)>

Good morning,

We need to make some changes to our process to ensure that our External Affairs office is informed when we make a FOIA release that may be reported in the national news. Please read this entire email carefully.

**EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY:** If you receive any requests from national news outlets (New York Times, CNN, etc.) or requests on any topics that are highly controversial, **you must notify me 24 hours prior to the release.** I will confirm receipt, so if you have not heard back from me, do not make the release.

This applies to both interim releases and final releases, whether they are full releases, releases with redactions, or releases that will be withheld in full.

Here is a partial list of topics where External Affairs must be notified before release:

**African Lion  
Elephant  
Red Wolf  
Mexican Wolf  
Grizzly Bear  
SES moves  
Border Wall  
Izembek NWR  
Arctic NWR  
Malheur NWR  
Pesticide Consultations  
African Wildlife Consultative Forum**

**National Monuments** - reminder that OS is coordinating these requests, so please let me know on the front end if you receive any new requests related to national monuments. We will still perform the search for these requests.

This list is not exhaustive, but is intended to give you an idea of the types of topics that will now require notification. I am also attaching a marked up spreadsheet of all current FWS Open requests - please review the highlighted requests for any that may apply to your office or region, because there are a few additional specific requests where External Affairs would like to be notified when a release will be made.

**Process:**

1. Email to FWS FOIA Officer - request letter, release letter, the documents as they will be released (if the volume is high, please provide a representative sample as an attachment to the email - not on the Google Drive)
2. FWS FOIA Officer will confirm receipt and inform External Affairs of the pending release, so they are aware of what is going out and can be prepared for any potential media inquiries we may receive.
3. FWS FOIA Officer will confirm to you that the release can be made.

If you have any questions about whether a particular topic would be of interest to External Affairs, please feel free to ask. We will be working closely with them for the first few months to ensure that we are providing them with information that is useful to them.

This change was requested at the AD level, so if you have any concerns, please let me know immediately so we can ensure that everyone has all the information they need to fully comply.

Thank you,  
Carrie Hyde-Michaels  
FWS FOIA Officer  
Chief, Branch of FOIA, Records, Privacy  
US Fish & Wildlife Service Headquarters  
703-358-2291 (direct)

**To:** Heather Swift[Heather\_Swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Celeste Katz  
**Sent:** 2017-12-26T09:10:59-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd: Newsweek - travel questions  
**Received:** 2017-12-26T09:11:17-05:00

Heather: I believe you were OOO Friday so I am resending this. The attachments were in a separate email. Please let me know if you plan to respond or decline to do so. - Celeste

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Celeste Katz <[c.katz@newsweekgroup.com](mailto:c.katz@newsweekgroup.com)>  
Date: Fri, Dec 22, 2017 at 4:20 PM  
Subject: Re: Newsweek - travel questions  
To: Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)>

Dear Heather,

Here are my final specific questions (with screenshots attached for clarity). Please let me know if you would like to comment for the story I am writing.

It is our understanding, based on the DOI / BLM email chain(s) I previously showed you and our own email exchanges, that Secretary Zinke was possibly going to visit a fireline in Nevada during his July visit.

In a July 17 exchange, there is a mention that the fireline visit is probably not going to occur because of a scheduling conflict (you later confirmed to me that Sec. Zinke was not able to go.)

On July 18, however, Rudy Evenson writes that "it looks like BLM will be able to pay for the helicopter out of the national fire office in Boise." He forwards an email from Grante Beebe that specifies, "We are going charge FA500 LF100 17X."

Our understanding is that this billing code is specific to wildfire preparedness. The publicly available documents put out by DOI on the Secretary's travel expenses show BLM did in fact pay the cost of the charter helicopter travel.

**Based on our review of this documentation, it appears to us that DOI and BLM used Fire Agency funding to finance a helicopter tour of Nevada monument sites that did not involve the planned trip to a fireline (but did involve a press conference). If you would like to explain otherwise, we invite you to do so.**

Thanks, Celeste

On Fri, Dec 22, 2017 at 11:47 AM, Celeste Katz <[c.katz@newsweekgroup.com](mailto:c.katz@newsweekgroup.com)> wrote:

Hi Heather, just wanted to make sure you saw my below question. I would appreciate an answer to this one specific thing, which is NOT explained in the documents to which you referred me. Thanks, CK

On Thu, Dec 21, 2017 at 4:08 PM Celeste Katz <[c.katz@newsweekgroup.com](mailto:c.katz@newsweekgroup.com)> wrote:

Ok, I think I have found what I was looking for (which I have attached as a screenshot from [here](#)).

If I am on the right page, the craft was a helicopter contracted with/from Papillon Airways. Specifically, it says "Mission flights paid by BLM."

In a July 18 email from the documents I sent you this morning, there is this line: "It looks like BLM will be able to pay for the helicopter out of the national fire office in Boise."

**How can I find out if BLM did in fact "pay for the helicopter out of the national fire office in Boise"?**

Can you tell me, or is there someone at BLM I should ask instead ?

Thanks for your help, CK

On Thu, Dec 21, 2017 at 3:19 PM, Celeste Katz <[c.katz@newsweekgroup.com](mailto:c.katz@newsweekgroup.com)> wrote:

Me again: Is this a standard message on the FOIA Reports Library page?

"At this time, archival documents may not be 100% accessible."

On Thu, Dec 21, 2017 at 3:05 PM, Celeste Katz <[c.katz@newsweekgroup.com](mailto:c.katz@newsweekgroup.com)> wrote:

Ok, I will check the FOIA page.

On Thu, Dec 21, 2017 at 3:01 PM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

However, I would still like to know who provided the helicopter (BLM? National Interagency Fire Center? There are references to both in the emails, along with a billing code). I would also like to know how much the trips cost and how they were financed. **This information, along with the million dollars of charges for charter flights by the previous administration, is publicly available on DOI's FOIA reading room webpage.**

Also, did the Secretary fly commercial between NM and NV because private transport could not be secured? **no**

If you can help me with these questions, that would be great. Thanks again.

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Thu, Dec 21, 2017 at 2:57 PM, Celeste Katz <[c.katz@newsweekgroup.com](mailto:c.katz@newsweekgroup.com)> wrote:

Thanks for getting back and for these details.

I certainly don't dispute that the aerial tour of Basin and Range was reported. (I read coverage of the visit in the Review Journal, for example.)

However, I would still like to know who provided the helicopter (BLM? National Interagency Fire Center? There are references to both in the emails, along with a billing code). I would also like to know how much the trips cost and how they were financed.

Also, did the Secretary fly commercial between NM and NV because private transport could not be secured?

If you can help me with these questions, that would be great. Thanks again.

On Thu, Dec 21, 2017 at 2:44 PM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

So I reviewed all the emails and talked with everyone I could think of here's what I have for you: the fireline visit was removed very early in the trip planning process, which was conveyed in the thread, due to scheduling constraints. The Secretary [flew commercial](#) between NM and NV.

Regarding the aerial tour of [Basin and Range National Monument](#), that has been widely reported already and has been fully disclosed. Everything was scheduled in full compliance of all federal regulations. The secretary [tweeted](#) and the Department published [footage](#) of it. The Secretary used a helicopter to do an aerial survey of more than 700,000 acres of land which has extremely limited road access. This was done as part of the monument review. The only newsworthy item is that this Secretary has sharply curbed the use of chartered airplanes compared to the previous administration which spent over a million dollars on chartered airplanes.

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Thu, Dec 21, 2017 at 1:36 PM, Celeste Katz <[c.katz@newsweekgroup.com](mailto:c.katz@newsweekgroup.com)> wrote:

ok, great - tvn

On Thu, Dec 21, 2017 at 1:35 PM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Im getting everything triple checked

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Thu, Dec 21, 2017 at 1:29 PM, Celeste Katz <[c.katz@newsweekgroup.com](mailto:c.katz@newsweekgroup.com)> wrote:

Hi Heather - just want to check that my questions were worded clearly and to see when think we might have a response or responses ? Thanks, CK

On Thu, Dec 21, 2017 at 9:11 AM, Celeste Katz <[c.katz@newsweekgroup.com](mailto:c.katz@newsweekgroup.com)> wrote:

You should find the file attached. The emails are (mainly) in reverse chronological order. Let me know they come through?

As you say, some of the exchanges would have taken place relatively early, but the discussions do go right up to the time of the trip.

On Thu, Dec 21, 2017 at 9:08 AM, Celeste Katz <[c.katz@newsweekgroup.com](mailto:c.katz@newsweekgroup.com)> wrote:

Hi, hold on a moment and I will send, sure

On Thu, Dec 21, 2017 at 9:06 AM, Heather Swift <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Celeste can you please send me the documents you're referencing? Off the top of my head it seems like you were pitched very early draft documents.

Heather Swift  
Press Secretary  
Department of the Interior

On Dec 21, 2017, at 9:03 AM, Celeste Katz <[c.katz@newsweekgroup.com](mailto:c.katz@newsweekgroup.com)> wrote:

Good morning, Heather -

Hoping you can help me with a few questions about Secretary Zinke's travel in Nevada and New Mexico over the summer. My questions are based on emails from July which were put together via a FOIL



request and shared with me.

At the end of July, Sec. Zinke went to Nevada and apparently did some travel by helicopter. According to the emails, there was both a possibility that he would visit a fire line in Nevada and that the helicopter arrangements would be made through the National Interagency Fire Center in Boise.

There were also some emails that described efforts to secure plane travel for him in New Mexico, but apparently there was an issue with finding pilots given the wildfires.

I would like to know:

1. Did the secretary end up traveling by helicopter?
2. Did he end up visiting any fire lines?
3. Who provided the helicopter service and at what cost?
4. Did the secretary end up having dinner with Sen. Dean Heller in Las Vegas, and was this a political or government business event?
5. What was the cost of any charter or private air travel, including planes and helicopters, for the entire trip (including New Mexico, if he did end up going there as well as Nevada)?

Please let me know if any part of my request isn't clear. I hope I can hear back from you on my questions by midday today.

Many thanks in advance for your help, CK

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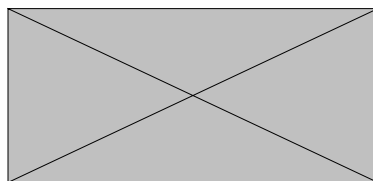
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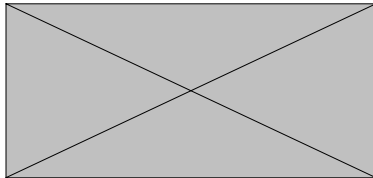
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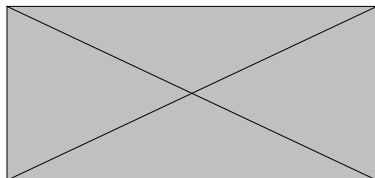
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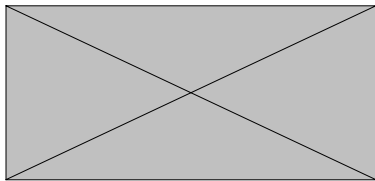
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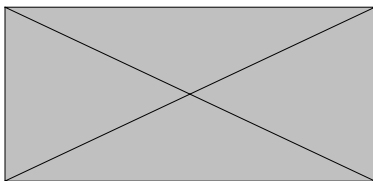
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**To:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Dixon, Shandria  
**Sent:** 2017-08-15T15:19:21-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd: OS-2017-00384  
**Received:** 2017-08-15T15:19:30-04:00  
[17-00384qa.pdf](#)

Can you please send me an update on your search for this FOIA...The FOIA office is requesting the status of your search.

Thanks

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** **Dixon, Shandria** <[shandria\\_dixon@ios.doi.gov](mailto:shandria_dixon@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Date:** Mon, Aug 7, 2017 at 11:12 AM  
**Subject:** Fwd: OS-2017-00384  
**To:** "Swift, Heather" <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)>, "Baptiste, Thomas" <[thomas\\_baptiste@ios.doi.gov](mailto:thomas_baptiste@ios.doi.gov)>

Heather/Thomas,

Can the two of you please do a search on this FOIA request? It is in litigation and they need to know the status immediately. Please advise some time today.

Thanks

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** **Bradley, Margaret** <[margaret\\_bradley@ios.doi.gov](mailto:margaret_bradley@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Date:** Mon, Aug 7, 2017 at 10:18 AM  
**Subject:** Fwd: OS-2017-00384  
**To:** "Dixon, Shandria" <[shandria\\_dixon@ios.doi.gov](mailto:shandria_dixon@ios.doi.gov)>

Hi Shandria,

The Division of General Law reached out to me to seek some assistance in determining the status of a FOIA search that is in litigation. The Department needs to know the status of the search process for the FOIA I am forwarding with this email. You are the contact for the FOIA searches for documents belonging to Laura Rigas, Heather Swift and Tom Baptiste. Can you let me know the status of the searches for these individuals and this particular FOIA request? And let me know if you need some assistance. And, unfortunately, I need an answer ASAP so that the Department can prepare a response for the court.

- we need the following:
  - a. EITHER the results of a search or a statement that the individual has no responsive documents.
  - b. If someone has responsive documents, they should:
    - i. create a folder in the Google Drive [HERE](#) with the

custodian's name,

- ii. upload their documents to that folder, and
  - iii. provide, in an email or brief document, a description of where and when they searched (e.g. Bison Connect, network directory), as well as HOW they searched (using keywords, looking through a labelled folder).
  - iv. If someone has searched but found no responsive documents, they should still provide a write-up describing the search.
- c. If someone knows they do NOT have responsive documents, they need to provide, in an email or brief document, a brief explanation why.
- d. The descriptions of the search and/or the reason for not having responsive documents will be the basis for a declaration. Custodians should expect a follow-up email from the FOIA Officer or myself with brief clarifying questions.

Thank you!  
Margaret

Margaret Bradley  
Senior Advisor  
Office of the Executive Secretariat  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
Room 7318  
202-208-4523

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Sweeney, Cynthia** <[cynthia\\_sweeney@ios.doi.gov](mailto:cynthia_sweeney@ios.doi.gov)>  
Date: Mon, Aug 7, 2017 at 9:51 AM  
Subject: OS-2017-00384  
To: "Bradley, Margaret" <[margaret\\_bradley@ios.doi.gov](mailto:margaret_bradley@ios.doi.gov)>

Hi Margaret,  
Please see attached a copy of the request that Leah was working on that is in litigation. Let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks,  
Cindy

--

**Cynthia Sweeney (Cindy)**  
**Department of the Interior**  
**Office of the Secretary, FOIA Office**  
1849 C Street, NW, MS-7328  
Washington, D.C. 20240  
[Cynthia\\_Sweeney@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Cynthia_Sweeney@ios.doi.gov)

(202) 513-0765 - FOIA general phone line  
(202) 208-3552 - direct line  
(202) 219-2374 - fax

--

**To:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]; Baptiste, Thomas[thomas\_baptiste@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Dixon, Shandria  
**Sent:** 2017-08-07T11:12:06-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd: OS-2017-00384  
**Received:** 2017-08-07T11:13:09-04:00  
[17-00384qa.pdf](#)

Heather/Thomas,

Can the two of you please do a search on this FOIA request? It is in litigation and they need to know the status immediately. Please advise some time today.

Thanks

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Bradley, Margaret** <[margaret\\_bradley@ios.doi.gov](mailto:margaret_bradley@ios.doi.gov)>  
Date: Mon, Aug 7, 2017 at 10:18 AM  
Subject: Fwd: OS-2017-00384  
To: "Dixon, Shandria" <[shandria\\_dixon@ios.doi.gov](mailto:shandria_dixon@ios.doi.gov)>

Hi Shandria,

The Division of General Law reached out to me to seek some assistance in determining the status of a FOIA search that is in litigation. The Department needs to know the status of the search process for the FOIA I am forwarding with this email. You are the contact for the FOIA searches for documents belonging to Laura Rigas, Heather Swift and Tom Baptiste. Can you let me know the status of the searches for these individuals and this particular FOIA request? And let me know if you need some assistance. And, unfortunately, I need an answer ASAP so that the Department can prepare a response for the court.

- we need the following:
  - a. EITHER the results of a search or a statement that the individual has no responsive documents.
  - b. If someone has responsive documents, they should:
    - i. create a folder in the Google Drive [HERE](#) with the custodian's name,
    - ii. upload their documents to that folder, and
    - iii. provide, in an email or brief document, a description of where and when they searched (e.g. Bison Connect, network directory), as well as HOW they searched (using keywords, looking through a labelled folder).
    - iv. If someone has searched but found no responsive documents, they should still provide a write-up describing the search.
  - c. If someone knows they do NOT have responsive documents, they need to provide, in an email or brief document, a brief explanation why.
  - d. The descriptions of the search and/or the reason for not having responsive documents will be the

basis for a declaration. Custodians should expect a follow-up email from the FOIA Officer or myself with brief clarifying questions.

Thank you!  
Margaret

Margaret Bradley  
Senior Advisor  
Office of the Executive Secretariat  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
Room 7318  
202-208-4523

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Sweeney, Cynthia** <[cynthia\\_sweeney@ios.doi.gov](mailto:cynthia_sweeney@ios.doi.gov)>  
Date: Mon, Aug 7, 2017 at 9:51 AM  
Subject: OS-2017-00384  
To: "Bradley, Margaret" <[margaret\\_bradley@ios.doi.gov](mailto:margaret_bradley@ios.doi.gov)>

Hi Margaret,  
Please see attached a copy of the request that Leah was working on that is in litigation. Let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks,  
Cindy

--

**Cynthia Sweeney (Cindy)**  
**Department of the Interior**  
**Office of the Secretary, FOIA Office**  
1849 C Street, NW, MS-7328  
Washington, D.C. 20240  
[Cynthia\\_Sweeney@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Cynthia_Sweeney@ios.doi.gov)

(202) 513-0765 - FOIA general phone line  
(202) 208-3552 - direct line  
(202) 219-2374 - fax

--

**Shandria Dixon**  
Office of the Secretary  
Office of Communications  
202.208.3752



**To:** Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Nicholas Banco[nicholas\_banco@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Spector, Rachel  
**Sent:** 2017-10-26T12:03:24-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd: OS-2017-00617 Question Requiring Immediate Response  
**Received:** 2017-10-26T12:04:14-04:00  
[For Review.pdf](#)  
[Original Request.pdf](#)

Hi again:

I'm re-sending the attachment because it looks like it fell off of my email from a moment ago.

Thanks again,

Rachel

Rachel Spector  
Division of General Law  
Office of the Solicitor  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 208-6029

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Banco, Nicholas <[nicholas\\_banco@ios.doi.gov](mailto:nicholas_banco@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Date:** Wed, Oct 25, 2017 at 10:26 AM  
**Subject:** OS-2017-00617 Question Requiring Immediate Response  
**To:** Clarice Julka <[clarice\\_julka@ios.doi.gov](mailto:clarice_julka@ios.doi.gov)>, Rachel Spector <[rachel.spector@sol.doi.gov](mailto:rachel.spector@sol.doi.gov)>, Heather Swift <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)>

Hi Heather,

We're currently in litigation with the Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington regarding a request for the Secretary's comments at a March 23, 2017 meeting with the American Petroleum Institute.

At Ed Keable's behest, we have prioritized the processing of the attached request to complete it as soon as possible. To that end, we have been working with Rachel Spector of SOL for legal review.

In the course of our analysis we found a communication from you concerning the Secretary's messaging. SOL has inquired (b) (5)

[REDACTED]

Please provide confirmation as soon as possible to help us close one of the Department's active litigations!

Thanks,

Nick

--

Nicholas Banco  
Department of the Interior  
Office of the Secretary, FOIA Office  
1849 C Street, NW, MS-7023  
Washington, D.C. 20240  
[Nicholas\\_Banco@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Nicholas_Banco@ios.doi.gov)  
(202) 513-0806 - phone

**To:** heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Robert Howarth  
**Sent:** 2017-09-20T18:48:55-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd: Proclamation  
**Received:** 2017-09-20T18:49:04-04:00  
[ATT00001.htm](#)  
[National Hunting and Fishing Month Proclamation DRAFT 9\\_15\\_17.docx](#)

Here it is

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Howarth, Robert" <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Date:** September 20, 2017 at 4:36:11 PM EDT  
**To:** Russell Newell <[russell\\_newell@ios.doi.gov](mailto:russell_newell@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: Proclamation

sorry...here it is...Rob

On Wed, Sep 20, 2017 at 4:32 PM, Russell Newell <[russell\\_newell@ios.doi.gov](mailto:russell_newell@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Rob - so sorry - I need the hunting and fishing proclamation in word. He's going to read from it and needs it in a bigger font. How soon can you send?

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 20, 2017, at 3:19 PM, Howarth, Robert <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

as requested.

Rob

On Wed, Sep 20, 2017 at 3:44 PM, Russell Newell <[russell\\_newell@ios.doi.gov](mailto:russell_newell@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Rob - can you send me a clean copy of the proclamation in a Word doc?

Secretary wants to read portions of it before he signs it and he needs it in a bigger font. If you send, I can format into the font. Thanks!

Sent from my iPhone

--

Robert Howarth  
Deputy Director for Correspondence and FOIA Management  
Office of the Executive Secretariat and Regulatory Affairs  
Department of the Interior  
[1849 C Street, NW](#)  
[Washington, DC 20240](#)  
202-208-3181  
202-208-4451 (direct)  
202-549-8961 (cell)

<0919 RZ OpEd Monument Review OES edits.docx>

--

Robert Howarth  
Deputy Director for Correspondence and FOIA Management  
Office of the Executive Secretariat and Regulatory Affairs  
Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20240  
202-208-3181  
202-208-4451 (direct)  
202-549-8961 (cell)

**To:** Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]; Laura Rigas[laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Goklany, Indur  
**Sent:** 2017-11-15T09:01:40-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd: Question  
**Received:** 2017-11-15T09:02:07-05:00

Here is the inquiry I received. Thanks.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Michael Bastasch** <[mike@dailycallernewsfoundation.org](mailto:mike@dailycallernewsfoundation.org)>

Date: Tue, Nov 14, 2017 at 3:14 PM

Subject: Question

To: [Indur\\_Goklany@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Indur_Goklany@ios.doi.gov)

Hi Indur,

I hope all is well. I was reading this story in EE News about Joel Clement, who used to work in OPA with you before resigning and claiming to be a whistleblower.

<https://www.eenews.net/stories/1060066499>

So, he's filed a FOIA lawsuit against Interior, which includes requests for emails and memos you sent since election day 2016.

Given that, I was wondering if you'd be willing to talk about Mr. Clement. He's claiming the Trump administration tried to silence him by moving to an office that collects fossil fuels revenues -- apparently an insult to DOI's "climate guy."

We can talk on background or off the record if you'd prefer.

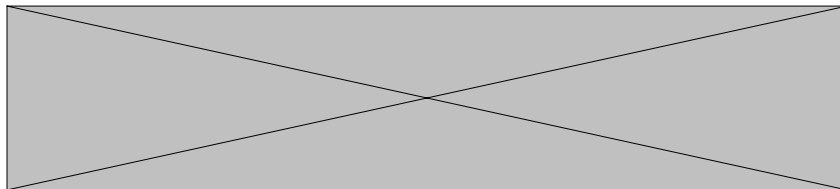
Let me know. Thanks!

Best,

Mike

--

Michael Bastasch  
Daily Caller News Foundation



**To:** Howarth, Robert[robert\_howarth@ios.doi.gov]; Eilperin, Juliet[Juliet.eilperin@washpost.com];  
Shane Wolfe[shane\_wolfe@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Swift, Heather  
**Sent:** 2017-11-21T17:28:05-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd: quick question on the volume of FOIA requests Interior is facing this calendar year,  
compared to last year  
**Received:** 2017-11-21T17:28:46-05:00

Hey team - any idea what the comparison for FOIA requests this year versus last year?

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Eilperin, Juliet <[Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com](mailto:Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com)>  
**Date:** Tue, Nov 21, 2017 at 5:24 PM  
**Subject:** quick question on the volume of FOIA requests Interior is facing this calendar year,  
compared to last year  
**To:** "[Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)" <[Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)>

Dear All,

Is there a way that tomorrow morning (not tonight, obviously), I could just get a tally of how many FOIAs DOI has received in calendar 2017 (so far) compared to 2016?

Thanks, Juliet

Juliet Eilperin

Senior National Affairs Correspondent

Washington Post

[Juliet.eilperin@washpost.com](mailto:Juliet.eilperin@washpost.com)

(O) 202-334-7774

(C) (b) (6)

@eilperin

**To:** Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Rigas, Laura  
**Sent:** 2017-12-15T15:38:56-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd: Records to be released for OS-2017-00659 and OS-2017-00707  
**Received:** 2017-12-15T15:39:03-05:00

*Laura Keehner Rigas  
Communications Director  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 897-7022 cell  
@Interior*

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Fairman, Leah <[leah\\_fairman@ios.doi.gov](mailto:leah_fairman@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Date:** Fri, Dec 15, 2017 at 2:54 PM  
**Subject:** Records to be released for OS-2017-00659 and OS-2017-00707  
**To:** Laura Rigas <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)>

Good afternoon,

The records to be released for the above mentioned requests that are currently in litigation consist of two files. The documents for OS-2017-00659 consist of calendars for the secretary for several months (March, April, May, and June 1-20). The documents for OS-2017-00707 consist of 4th of July invitations and conversations between DOI staff members, between DOI staff and Mrs. Zinke, and DOI staff and invitees for the 4th of July party the Secretary held in 2017.

These are being released as the second partial response to both requests and have a due date to be released of COB 12/15.

Thanks,  
Leah

--

Leah Fairman  
Department of the Interior  
Office of the Secretary, FOIA Office  
[1849 C Street, NW](https://www.doi.gov/1849-C-Street-NW), MS-7328  
Washington, D.C. 20240  
[Leah\\_Fairman@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Leah_Fairman@ios.doi.gov)  
(202) 513-0765 - phone  
(202) 565-1076 - direct line  
(202) 219-2374 - fax

**To:** Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Russell Newell[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Laura Rigas  
**Sent:** 2017-10-10T14:56:38-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd: redline Sonoran  
**Received:** 2017-10-10T14:56:51-04:00

Hitting Friday I believe.

Laura Keehner Rigas  
Communications Director  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 897-7022 cell  
@Interior

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Cassidy, Benjamin" <[benjamin\\_cassidy@ios.doi.gov](mailto:benjamin_cassidy@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Date:** October 10, 2017 at 2:21:20 PM EDT  
**To:** "Rigas, Laura" <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Cc:** "Howarth, Robert" <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)>, Russell Newell  
<[russell\\_newell@ios.doi.gov](mailto:russell_newell@ios.doi.gov)>, Downey Magallanes  
<[downey\\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov](mailto:downey_magallanes@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Subject:** **Re: redline Sonoran**

Re: SDNM talking points, please see below and attached. Let me know whether you need anything additional. Ben

#### TALKING POINTS

- The BLM has released the Proposed RMP Amendment and Final EIS for recreational target shooting on the SDNM.
- The proposal analyzes five different alternatives of managing recreational target shooting within the SDNM boundaries. These alternatives range from making the entire monument available for target shooting to making the entire monument unavailable.
- The five alternatives were developed using public comments and environmental analysis, all of which were analyzed in the Proposed RMP Amendment and Final EIS.
- Alternative C is the identified BLM Proposed Alternative. It is a proposal, not a final decision. This course of action is the BLM Proposed Alternative because it would preserve



access for recreational target shooting on nearly 90 percent of the Monument while ensuring public safety in the most heavily visited areas. This alternative would ensure appropriate resource protection while providing an adaptive management framework for addressing recreational target shooting impacts in areas where shooting would be allowed.

- The proposed RMP Amendment and Final EIS are available for public review on the web at <http://1.usa.gov/1ZPyFSA>. Printed copies are also available for public inspection at Lower Sonoran Field Office, 21605 North 7th Avenue, Phoenix, Arizona 85027.
- Once the proposed RMP amendment and final EIS are published, there will be a 30-day public protest period as well as a 60 day Governor's Consistency Review. All protests must be in writing and mailed to one of the following addresses:

Regular Mail: Delivery:	Overnight
BLM Director (210) (210)	BLM Director
Attention: Protest Coordinator Protest Coordinator	Attention:
P.O. Box 71383 Room 2134LM	20 M Street SE,
Washington, D.C. 20024-1383 D.C. 20003	Washington,

- After the protest period and based on the environmental analysis, the BLM Arizona State Director will decide whether to approve the BLM-proposed alternative, another alternative, or any combination of alternatives analyzed.

## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

**Q:** How did the BLM develop the different alternatives in the proposal?

**A:** The five different alternatives range from making the entire SDNM available for recreational target shooting to making the entire monument unavailable for recreational target shooting, and various options in between. The alternatives were developed from comments from the public and environmental analysis. Each of the different alternatives are analyzed in the proposed RMP Amendment and Final EIS.

**Q:** What does it mean that Alternative C is the BLM Proposed Alternative?

**A:** This Proposed Alternative would preserve access for recreational target shooting on nearly 90 percent of the Monument while ensuring public safety in the areas of heaviest family recreation use. This alternative would also ensure resource protection in those areas of heaviest recreation use while providing an adaptive management framework for addressing recreational target shooting impacts where access would be maintained.

**Q:** Now that the proposed alternatives have been released, what more can the public do?

**A:** The publication of the Notice of Availability in the *Federal Register* marks the beginning of a 30-day public protest period. All protests must be in writing and mailed to one of the following addresses:

Regular Mail:  
Delivery:

BLM Director (210)  
(210)

Attention: Protest Coordinator  
Protest Coordinator

P.O. Box 71383

Overnight

BLM Director

Attention:

20 M Street SE,

Room 2134LM

Washington, D.C. 20024-1383 Washington,  
D.C. 20003

**Q:** How will a decision be made on which alternative is selected for future management?

**A:** After the 30-day protest period and Governor's Consistency Review, the BLM Arizona State Director will review the analysis and determine which alternative, or combination of alternatives, will be selected. He will sign a Record of Decision to finalize the management of recreational target shooting on the SDNM moving forward.

**Q:** How will these alternatives protect the Sonoran Desert National Monument?

**A:** The proposed plan includes mitigation measures for monitoring and managing cumulative impacts into the future to ensure protection for the monument, monument objects, and public land users.

**Q:** How will these alternatives protect the public's right to target shoot on federal lands?

**A:** If an alternative is selected that allows for recreational target shooting, the Record of Decision will outline the areas within the Sonoran Desert National Monument boundaries where shooting would be allowed. The BLM Arizona's position is that responsible recreational target shooting is an activity supported on public lands in areas where it conforms to land use plan decisions and when it is conducted safely and responsibly.

[SDNM PRMPAAmendmentCommPlan ASLM edits 7.5.17.docx](#)

[SDNM PRMPA FEIS Press Release ASLM edits 7.5.17...](#)

On Tue, Oct 10, 2017 at 12:36 PM, Rigas, Laura <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Thanks.  
Downey -- FYI, Ben is asking BLM for talking points.  
My best,  
L

*Laura Keehner Rigas  
Communications Director  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 897-7022 cell  
@Interior*

On Tue, Oct 10, 2017 at 12:30 PM, Howarth, Robert <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Downey asked that I send to you the attached document concerning the NOA (amended) for the Proposed RMP/Final EIS for recreational target shooting in the Sonoran Desert National Monument. The package was cleared today to go to the Federal Register.

Regards, Rob

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Apgar, Megan** <[megan\\_apgar@ios.doi.gov](mailto:megan_apgar@ios.doi.gov)>  
Date: Tue, Oct 10, 2017 at 12:07 PM  
Subject: redline Sonoran  
To: Robert Howarth <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)>  
Cc: Mark Lawyer <[mark\\_lawyer@ios.doi.gov](mailto:mark_lawyer@ios.doi.gov)>

As requested, the revised NOA is attached.

--

Robert Howarth  
Deputy Director for Correspondence and FOIA Management  
Office of the Executive Secretariat and Regulatory Affairs  
Department of the Interior  
[1849 C Street, NW](#)  
[Washington, DC 20240](#)  
202-208-3181  
202-208-4451 (direct)  
202-549-8961 (cell)

--

Benjamin J. Cassidy  
Department of the Interior  
Immediate Office of the Secretary  
Senior Deputy Director for External and Intergovernmental Affairs

[benjamin\\_cassidy@ios.doi.gov](mailto:benjamin_cassidy@ios.doi.gov)

(202) 208-4219 w

**To:** Bowman, Randal[[randal\\_bowman@ios.doi.gov](mailto:randal_bowman@ios.doi.gov)]; Magallanes, Downey[[downey\\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov](mailto:downey_magallanes@ios.doi.gov)]; Russell Newell[[russell\\_newell@ios.doi.gov](mailto:russell_newell@ios.doi.gov)]  
**From:** Swift, Heather  
**Sent:** 2017-07-25T14:56:31-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd: Request for comment: DOI/DOC Monument comment sharing  
**Received:** 2017-07-25T14:57:22-04:00  
[072417\\_DOI FOIA Response.pdf](#)  
[Rose Atoll 1-export-20170706-013252.csv](#)

Question below on sharing comments with Commerce.

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Esther Whieldon** <[ewhieldon@politico.com](mailto:ewhieldon@politico.com)>  
Date: Tue, Jul 25, 2017 at 2:37 PM  
Subject: Request for comment: DOI/DOC Monument comment sharing  
To: Interior Press <[interior\\_press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:interior_press@ios.doi.gov)>, Heather Swift <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)>  
Cc: Anthony Adragna <[aadragna@politico.com](mailto:aadragna@politico.com)>

The Center for American Progress claims that FOIA'd records show that Interior has passed along less than 500 copies of comments to the Commerce Department referencing the marine monuments but the group says that more than a half a million comments submitted to Interior actually mentioned the marine monuments. Interior said in the Federal Register notice that people shouldn't duplicate comments between the agencies because DOI would share what it received.

Please comment on this, including the extent to which the Interior passed along information to the Commerce Department in this review. Are you planning on sending more over?

Thanks, Esther

**To:** Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]; Downey Magallanes[downey\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov]; scott\_hommel@ios.doi.gov[scott\_hommel@ios.doi.gov]; Todd Willens[todd\_willens@ios.doi.gov]; russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Laura Rigas  
**Sent:** 2017-09-08T12:37:57-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd: Request Immediate Surname - Wildland Fire  
**Received:** 2017-09-08T12:38:07-04:00  
[ATT00001.htm](#)  
[Fuels Treatment SecMemo Final Draft3 - OES edit 9-8-17.docx](#)

I'm not sure we are ready to release this today. We don't have the materials for the rollout and need to coordinate with folks.

Laura Keehner Rigas  
Communications Director  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 897-7022 cell  
@Interior

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Howarth, Robert" <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Date:** September 8, 2017 at 12:28:02 PM EDT  
**To:** Daniel Jorjani <[daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov](mailto:daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov)>, Peg Romanik <[peg.romanik@sol.doi.gov](mailto:peg.romanik@sol.doi.gov)>, Louise Milkman <[louise.milkman@sol.doi.gov](mailto:louise.milkman@sol.doi.gov)>, "Rice, Bryan" <[bryan\\_rice@ios.doi.gov](mailto:bryan_rice@ios.doi.gov)>, "Leff, Craig" <[Craig\\_Leff@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Craig_Leff@ios.doi.gov)>, Harry Humbert <[harry\\_humbert@ios.doi.gov](mailto:harry_humbert@ios.doi.gov)>, Scott Cameron <[scott\\_cameron@ios.doi.gov](mailto:scott_cameron@ios.doi.gov)>, Katharine MacGregor <[katharine\\_macgregor@ios.doi.gov](mailto:katharine_macgregor@ios.doi.gov)>, Todd Willens <[todd\\_willens@ios.doi.gov](mailto:todd_willens@ios.doi.gov)>, Micah Chambers <[micah\\_chambers@ios.doi.gov](mailto:micah_chambers@ios.doi.gov)>, "Rigas, Laura" <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)>, Heather Swift <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)>, Michael Black <[mike.black@bia.gov](mailto:mike.black@bia.gov)>, Downey Magallanes <[downey\\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov](mailto:downey_magallanes@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Cc:** David Mihalic <[david\\_mihalic@ios.doi.gov](mailto:david_mihalic@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Subject:** Request Immediate Surname - Wildland Fire

Hello all. Attached for your review and surname is a memorandum to be signed by the Secretary. Regrettably, I am on a very tight schedule! Secretary expects to sign this today.

Please review the "To list" to make sure all managers have been included in the memorandum.

My understanding that many of you have been involved in the development of this document.

Any specific questions, please direct them to David Mihalic (cc'd here) at (202) 208-4130/ (b) (6) (cell).

**Please respond to this email with your surname today by 3:30 pm--NO  
LATER.**

Regards, Rob

--

Robert Howarth  
Deputy Director for Correspondence and FOIA Management  
Office of the Executive Secretariat and Regulatory Affairs  
Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20240  
202-208-3181  
202-208-4451 (direct)  
202-549-8961 (cell)



**To:** Russell Newell[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov]; Eli Nachmany[eli\_nachmany@ios.doi.gov]; Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]; alex\_hinson@ios.doi.gov[alex\_hinson@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Laura Rigas  
**Sent:** 2017-09-15T17:22:19-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd: Request Surname - Secretary Proclamation  
**Received:** 2017-09-15T17:22:28-04:00  
[ATT00001.htm](#)  
[National Hunting and Fishing Month Proclamation DRAFT 9 15 17.docx](#)

FYI in case you want to review. We will need a press release for when he signs it next Thurs.  
Thx!

Laura Keehner Rigas  
Communications Director  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 897-7022 cell  
@Interior

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Howarth, Robert" <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Date:** September 15, 2017 at 5:09:59 PM EDT  
**To:** Katharine Macgregor <[kate\\_macgregor@ios.doi.gov](mailto:kate_macgregor@ios.doi.gov)>, "Jorjani, Daniel" <[daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov](mailto:daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov)>, Laura Rigas <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)>, Micah Chambers <[micah\\_chambers@ios.doi.gov](mailto:micah_chambers@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Cc:** Rich Cardinale <[Richard\\_Cardinale@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Richard_Cardinale@ios.doi.gov)>, Mary Grace <[Marigrace.Caminiti@sol.doi.gov](mailto:Marigrace.Caminiti@sol.doi.gov)>, Lisa M Cannuscio <[Lisa\\_Cannuscio@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Lisa_Cannuscio@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Subject: Request Surname - Secretary Proclamation**

Good afternoon. Attached for your review and surname is a proposed Secretary Proclamation for October as National Hunting and Fishing Month. The Secretary is expected to sign it on September 21.

This is on a fast track. **I will need your surname by 10:00 a.m. Monday morning.**

Any questions on the proposed proclamation, please call Todd Willens at 208-3437.

Thanks, Rob

--

Robert Howarth  
Deputy Director for Correspondence and FOIA Management  
Office of the Executive Secretariat and Regulatory Affairs  
Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20240

202-208-3181  
202-208-4451 (direct)  
202-549-8961 (cell)

**To:** heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]; Russell Newell[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Laura Rigas  
**Sent:** 2017-12-12T08:34:51-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd: Request Surname - Training  
**Received:** 2017-12-12T08:35:00-05:00  
[ATT00001.htm](#)  
[Bernhardt Memo Training.docx](#)

Any issue with this?

Laura Keehner Rigas  
Communications Director  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 897-7022 cell  
@Interior

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Howarth, Robert" <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Date:** December 12, 2017 at 7:32:57 AM EST  
**To:** Laura Rigas <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Subject:** **Fwd: Request Surname - Training**

Good morning...sorry, left you off original request. Please review the attached Dep Sec memo and email me your surname as soon as possible.

Thanks, Rob

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** **Howarth, Robert** <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Date:** Mon, Dec 11, 2017 at 3:07 PM  
**Subject:** Request Surname - Training  
**To:** Scott Cameron <[scott\\_cameron@ios.doi.gov](mailto:scott_cameron@ios.doi.gov)>, Mary Pletcher <[Mary\\_Pletcher@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Mary_Pletcher@ios.doi.gov)>, "Jorjani, Daniel" <[daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov](mailto:daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov)>

Good afternoon. Attached for your review and surname is a memorandum from the Deputy Secretary to the Assistant Secretaries and heads of bureaus and offices regarding training.

**Please email me your surname and any suggested changes by Noon on Tuesday, December 12.**

Regards, Rob

--

Robert Howarth  
Deputy Director for Correspondence and FOIA Management

Office of the Executive Secretariat and Regulatory Affairs  
Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20240  
202-208-3181  
202-208-4451 (direct)  
202-549-8961 (cell)

--

Robert Howarth  
Deputy Director for Correspondence and FOIA Management  
Office of the Executive Secretariat and Regulatory Affairs  
Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20240  
202-208-3181  
202-208-4451 (direct)  
202-549-8961 (cell)

**To:** Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]; Alex Hinson[alex\_hinson@ios.doi.gov]; Gillick, Larry[larry\_gillick@ios.doi.gov]; Rebecca Matulka[rebecca\_matulka@ios.doi.gov]; Newell, Russell[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov]; Nachmany, Eli[eli\_nachmany@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Rigas, Laura  
**Sent:** 2017-10-25T12:42:37-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd: REVISED Final Energy Report  
**Received:** 2017-10-25T12:42:46-04:00  
[DOI Submission for Publication.docx](#)

FINAL.

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** **Howarth, Robert** <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Date:** Wed, Oct 25, 2017 at 10:47 AM  
**Subject:** REVISED Final Energy Report  
**To:** Laura Rigas <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)>

Sorry, last minute changes, Rob.

--

Robert Howarth  
Deputy Director for Correspondence and FOIA Management  
Office of the Executive Secretariat and Regulatory Affairs  
Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20240  
202-208-3181  
202-208-4451 (direct)  
202-549-8961 (cell)

**To:** Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]; Russell Newell[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov]; alex\_hinson@ios.doi.gov[alex\_hinson@ios.doi.gov]; eli\_nachmany@ios.doi.gov[eli\_nachmany@ios.doi.gov]; Nathan Adams[nathan\_adams@ios.doi.gov]; Rebecca Matulka[rebecca\_matulka@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Laura Rigas  
**Sent:** 2017-10-25T09:33:21-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd: Revised FINAL Report  
**Received:** 2017-10-25T09:34:05-04:00  
[ATT00001.htm](#)  
[TO BE SUBMITTED CLEAN for Publication.docx](#)

FYI, here's the final copy which will needed to be posted in concert with our release today (around 2pm).

Thanks,  
L

Laura Keehner Rigas  
Communications Director  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 897-7022 cell  
@Interior

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Howarth, Robert" <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Date:** October 25, 2017 at 8:04:39 AM EDT  
**To:** Laura Rigas <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Subject:** Revised FINAL Report

Good morning. Please call me, thanks.

Rob

--

Robert Howarth  
Deputy Director for Correspondence and FOIA Management  
Office of the Executive Secretariat and Regulatory Affairs  
Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20240  
202-208-3181  
202-208-4451 (direct)  
202-549-8961 (cell)

**To:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Downey Magallanes[downey\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Bowman, Randal  
**Sent:** 2017-08-16T15:40:13-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd: Search Request - FOIA Request: OS-2017-01043  
**Received:** 2017-08-16T15:40:21-04:00  
[17-01043qa.docx](#)  
[FOIA Control Form \(updated\) BLANK.pdf](#)

FOIA request from Wash Post

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **OS, OS FOIA** <[osfoia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov)>

Date: Wed, Aug 16, 2017 at 3:09 PM

Subject: Search Request - FOIA Request: OS-2017-01043

To: Gisella Ojeda-dodds <[gisella\\_ojeda-dodds@ios.doi.gov](mailto:gisella_ojeda-dodds@ios.doi.gov)>, Randal Bowman  
<[Randal\\_Bowman@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Randal_Bowman@ios.doi.gov)>

All,

Please feel free to add anyone who will be involved in the search for responsive records.

× “Complex” Processing Track

Thank you/Karmen

OS FOIA has received a Freedom of Information Act request for which we believe your Office may have responsive materials. Please use the below chart, attached copy of the FOIA request, and attached FOIA Control Form to inform us of your search efforts.

- If available, please provide responsive documents to OS FOIA electronically (CD, FOIA DMU Processing Application, email, or thumb drive). Please note that Bison Connect can pull emails electronically with the DMU Processing App’s and OS staff can assist with this tool. Please contact OS FOIA if electronic documents are not available.**
- Please track the time required to search for these documents on the attached control form.**
- If you have any questions regarding the specific guidance on copying, reviewing, and submitting documents to the OS FOIA office, please call 202-513-0765.**

<b>Please reply/send all items to <a href="mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov">osfoia@ios.doi.gov</a> - Except “FOIA/DMU Processing Tool” searches</b> (Please include <a href="mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov">osfoia@ios.doi.gov</a> on all communications/discussions regarding this FOIA request.)	
<b>Action Office:</b> Office of the Secretary	<b>Responsible Program Office:</b> IOS
<b>Current Date:</b> 08/16/17	<b>Due Date:</b> 08/30/17

<b>FOIA Request Control Number:</b> OS-2017-01043	<b>OS FOIA Contact (MIB 7328):</b> Cindy Sweeney
<b>Requester's Name:</b> Darryl Fears	<b>Amount Requester Is Willing To Pay:</b> Fee Waiver Requested

Thank you,  
Karmen

--

Department of the Interior  
Office of the Secretary, FOIA Office  
1849 C Street, NW, MS-7328  
Washington, D.C. 20240  
[os\\_foia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:os_foia@ios.doi.gov)  
(202) 513-0765 - phone  
(202) 219-2374 - fax



**To:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Matulka, Rebecca  
**Sent:** 2017-12-01T14:29:18-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd: Search Request OS-2018-00262  
**Received:** 2017-12-01T14:29:27-05:00  
[18-00262qa.pdf](#)  
[FOIA Control Form \(4.8.16\).pdf](#)

Heather,

Here is the FOIA all the federal agencies got, and my proposed response. I'm also having our Records person look at it.

We don't have any records that meet this FOIA request. The only tweets that we know of that were deleted are ones that had grammatical mistakes, were missing content, such as a photo that was supposed to accompany the tweet, the wrong URL, and an incorrect date. In these cases, the tweets were deleted and reposted with the mistake fixed.

It is Interior policy that grammar or typographical changes can be made without preserving a copy for records because these are considered non-substantive changes and have no records value. It is important to respond to any comment acknowledging the grammar mistake for transparency.

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** OS, OS FOIA <[osfoia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Date:** Tue, Nov 28, 2017 at 1:56 PM  
**Subject:** Fwd: Search Request OS-2018-00262  
**To:** Rebecca Matulka <[rebecca\\_matulka@ios.doi.gov](mailto:rebecca_matulka@ios.doi.gov)>

Hello Rebecca, we were referred to you by Larry Gillick.

Forwarding the below search request for responsive documents related to the attached request.

Thank you  
Karmen

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** OS, OS FOIA <[osfoia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Date:** Tue, Nov 28, 2017 at 1:45 PM  
**Subject:** Search Request OS-2018-00262  
**To:** Larry Gillick <[larry\\_gillick@ios.doi.gov](mailto:larry_gillick@ios.doi.gov)>

OS FOIA has received a Freedom of Information Act request for which we believe your Office may have

responsive materials. Please use the below chart, attached copy of the FOIA request, and attached FOIA Control Form to inform us of your search efforts.

- **If available, please provide responsive documents to OS FOIA electronically (CD, FOIA DMU Processing Application, email, or thumb drive). Please note that Bison Connect can pull emails electronically with the DMU Processing App's and OS staff can assist with this tool. Please contact OS FOIA if electronic documents are not available.**

- **Please track the time required to search for these documents on the attached control form.**

- **If you have any questions regarding the specific guidance on copying, reviewing, and submitting documents to the OS FOIA office, please call 202-513-0765.**

<b>Please reply/send all items to <a href="mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov">osfoia@ios.doi.gov</a> - Except "FOIA/DMU Processing Tool" searches</b> (Please include <a href="mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov">osfoia@ios.doi.gov</a> on all communications/discussions regarding this FOIA request.)	
<b>Action Office:</b> Office of the Secretary	<b>Responsible Program Office:</b> OCO
<b>Current Date:</b> 11/28/2017	<b>Due Date:</b> 12/12/17
<b>FOIA Request Control Number:</b> OS-2018-00262	<b>OS FOIA Contact (MIB 7328):</b> Cindy Sweeney
<b>Requester's Name:</b> Muira McCammon	<b>Amount Requester Is Willing To Pay:</b> Requested Fee Waiver

--

Department of the Interior  
Office of the Secretary, FOIA Office  
1849 C Street, NW, MS-7328  
Washington, D.C. 20240  
[os\\_foia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:os_foia@ios.doi.gov)  
(202) 513-0765 - phone  
(202) 219-2374 - fax

--

Department of the Interior  
Office of the Secretary, FOIA Office  
1849 C Street, NW, MS-7328  
Washington, D.C. 20240  
[os\\_foia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:os_foia@ios.doi.gov)  
(202) 513-0765 - phone  
(202) 219-2374 - fax

--

Rebecca Matulka  
Deputy Director of Digital  
Interior Department  
202.208.5337

**To:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Laura Rigas[laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Dixon, Shandria  
**Sent:** 2017-12-19T11:08:44-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd: Search Request OS-2018-00303  
**Received:** 2017-12-19T11:08:53-05:00  
[18-00303qa.pdf](#)  
[FOIA Control Form \(4.8.16\).pdf](#)

Heather,  
This FOIA is requesting correspondence that you may have. Please see the attached FOIA.

Thanks,

----- Forwarded message -----

From: OS, OS FOIA <[osfoia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov)>

Date: Tue, Dec 19, 2017 at 10:55 AM

Subject: Search Request OS-2018-00303

To: Caroline Boulton <[caroline\\_boulton@ios.doi.gov](mailto:caroline_boulton@ios.doi.gov)>, Gareth Rees

<[gareth\\_rees@ios.doi.gov](mailto:gareth_rees@ios.doi.gov)>, Elinor Renner <[elinor\\_renner@ios.doi.gov](mailto:elinor_renner@ios.doi.gov)>, Catherine Gulac

<[catherine\\_gulac@ios.doi.gov](mailto:catherine_gulac@ios.doi.gov)>, Gisella Ojeda-dodds <[gisella\\_ojeda-dodds@ios.doi.gov](mailto:gisella_ojeda-dodds@ios.doi.gov)>,

Shirley Lewis <[shirley\\_lewis@ios.doi.gov](mailto:shirley_lewis@ios.doi.gov)>, Sylvia Holton <[sylvia\\_holton@ios.doi.gov](mailto:sylvia_holton@ios.doi.gov)>,

Catherine Callaway <[catherine\\_callaway@ios.doi.gov](mailto:catherine_callaway@ios.doi.gov)>, Shandria Dixon

<[shandria\\_dixon@ios.doi.gov](mailto:shandria_dixon@ios.doi.gov)>

Cc: Richard Cardinale <[richard\\_cardinale@ios.doi.gov](mailto:richard_cardinale@ios.doi.gov)>

All: Thank you for your assistance.

Gisella/Shirley/Sylvia: Regarding Domenech's records for the date range specified (March 1 to date of processing), you may have to coordinate and/or Mr. Domenech may want/need to pull his records himself.

Tracie/Jill: Copied Richard Cardinale given the date ranged specified (March 1 to date of processing).

If questions, please contact us

Thanks again

Karmen

OS FOIA has received a Freedom of Information Act request for which we believe your Office may have responsive materials. Please use the below chart, attached copy of the FOIA request, and attached FOIA Control Form to inform us of your search efforts.

· **If available, please provide responsive documents to OS FOIA electronically (CD, FOIA DMU Processing Application, email, or thumb drive). Please note that Bison Connect can pull emails electronically with the DMU Processing App's and OS staff can assist with this tool. Please contact OS FOIA if electronic documents are not available.**

- **Please track the time required to search for these documents on the attached control form.**
- **If you have any questions regarding the specific guidance on copying, reviewing, and submitting documents to the OS FOIA office, please call 202-513-0765.**

<b>Please reply/send all items to <a href="mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov">osfoia@ios.doi.gov</a> - Except "FOIA/DMU Processing Tool" searches</b> (Please include <a href="mailto:osfoia@ios.doi.gov">osfoia@ios.doi.gov</a> on all communications/discussions regarding this FOIA request.)	
<b>Action Office:</b> Office of the Secretary	<b>Responsible Program Office:</b> SIO, ASFWP, ASWS
<b>Current Date:</b> 12/19/17	<b>Due Date:</b> 01/03/2018
<b>FOIA Request Control Number:</b> OS-2018-00303	<b>OS FOIA Contact (MIB 7328):</b> Cindy Sweeney
<b>Requester's Name:</b> Jimmy Tobias	<b>Amount Requester Is Willing To Pay:</b> None Specified

--

Department of the Interior  
Office of the Secretary, FOIA Office  
1849 C Street, NW, MS-7328  
Washington, D.C. 20240  
[os\\_foia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:os_foia@ios.doi.gov)  
(202) 513-0765 - phone  
(202) 219-2374 - fax

--

**Shandria Dixon**  
Office of the Secretary  
Office of Communications  
202.208.3752  
202.208.6416

**To:** Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Rigas, Laura  
**Sent:** 2017-12-06T17:59:47-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd: Secretarial Travel OAS-110s - Invitation to collaborate  
**Received:** 2017-12-06T17:59:54-05:00

*Laura Keehner Rigas  
Communications Director  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 897-7022 cell  
@Interior*

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Nicholas Banco (via Google Drive) <[drive-shares-noreply@google.com](mailto:drive-shares-noreply@google.com)>  
**Date:** Wed, Dec 6, 2017 at 5:46 PM  
**Subject:** Secretarial Travel OAS-110s - Invitation to collaborate  
**To:** [laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)  
**Cc:** [clarice\\_julka@ios.doi.gov](mailto:clarice_julka@ios.doi.gov), [robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov), [downey\\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov](mailto:downey_magallanes@ios.doi.gov)

nicholas\_banco@ios.doi.gov has invited you to **contribute to** the following shared folder:

## Secretarial Travel OAS-110s

Hi everyone,

Please find for your awareness review the proposed files for posting on the OS FOIA website tomorrow, December 7, 2017. I have included both redacted and bracketed versions of the OAS-110s broken down by Secretary.

The materials are derived from ones provided by DMU and constitute all travel materials produced to Congress in October. The files, except for pages 7-12 in Secretary Zinke's packet, have been reviewed and approved by Jennifer Heindl in SOL. Due to the lack of sensitivities on the additional pages provided, OS recommends their release in full.

Thanks,

Nick

[Open](#)

Google Drive: Have all your files within reach from any device.

Google Inc. 1600 Amphitheatre Parkway, Mountain View, CA 94043, USA

**To:** heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Robert Howarth  
**Sent:** 2017-11-09T16:57:55-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd: Signed letter  
**Received:** 2017-11-09T16:58:03-05:00  
[ATT00001.htm](#)  
[Zinke Durbin Monuments.pdf](#)

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Howarth, Robert" <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Date:** November 9, 2017 at 4:39:03 PM EST  
**To:** Micah Chambers <[micah\\_chambers@ios.doi.gov](mailto:micah_chambers@ios.doi.gov)>, Downey Magallanes  
<[downey\\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov](mailto:downey_magallanes@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Subject: Signed letter**

Good afternoon. Attached is the signed and dated letter from the Secretary to Senator Durbin.

Rob

--

Robert Howarth  
Deputy Director for Correspondence and FOIA Management  
Office of the Executive Secretariat and Regulatory Affairs  
Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20240  
202-208-3181  
202-208-4451 (direct)  
202-549-8961 (cell)

**To:** Nathan Adams[nathan\_adams@ios.doi.gov]; Hinson, Alex[alex\_hinson@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Swift, Heather  
**Sent:** 2017-09-15T11:12:24-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd: Signed SO  
**Received:** 2017-09-15T11:13:12-04:00  
[Signed SO 3356.pdf](#)

Attached is the SO that needs to be uploaded and linked to the press release.

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** **Howarth, Robert** <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Date:** Fri, Sep 15, 2017 at 11:07 AM  
**Subject:** Signed SO  
**To:** Heather Swift <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Cc:** "Willens, Todd" <[todd\\_willens@ios.doi.gov](mailto:todd_willens@ios.doi.gov)>

--

Robert Howarth  
Deputy Director for Correspondence and FOIA Management  
Office of the Executive Secretariat and Regulatory Affairs  
Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20240  
202-208-3181  
202-208-4451 (direct)  
202-549-8961 (cell)



**To:** Laura Rigas[laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov]; Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]; Russell Newell[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Rebecca Matulka[rebecca\_matulka@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Ross, Paul  
**Sent:** 2017-09-20T10:16:54-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd: Story on officer (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Received:** 2017-09-20T10:17:15-04:00

FYI

**Paul R. Ross**

Senior Public Affairs Specialist  
Office of Communications  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
Office: (202) 501-4633 | Cell: (202) 507-1689

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Barnum, Jeremy <[jeremy\\_barnum@nps.gov](mailto:jeremy_barnum@nps.gov)>  
**Date:** Wed, Sep 20, 2017 at 10:04 AM  
**Subject:** Fwd: Story on officer (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**To:** Paul Ross <[paul\\_ross@ios.doi.gov](mailto:paul_ross@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Cc:** April Slayton <[april\\_slayton@nps.gov](mailto:april_slayton@nps.gov)>

Paul,

Heads up on a story and a video involving a U.S. Park Police officer at one of the First Amendment rallies last weekend: <https://democracyincrisis.com/2017/09/19/they-work-for-me-u-s-park-police-officer-says-of-militia-member-at-far-right-rally/>

I'm going to check to see if we can get some more background and will share accordingly.

Jeremy K. Barnum  
Acting Chief of Public Affairs  
National Park Service  
Office: (202) 513-7262



[Facebook](#) [Twitter](#)  
[Instagram](#) [YouTube](#)

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Rose, Anna <[anna\\_rose@nps.gov](mailto:anna_rose@nps.gov)>  
**Date:** Wed, Sep 20, 2017 at 9:57 AM  
**Subject:** Fwd: Story on officer (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**To:** Jennifer Mummart <[jennifer\\_mummart@nps.gov](mailto:jennifer_mummart@nps.gov)>, "Barnum, Jeremy" <[jeremy\\_barnum@nps.gov](mailto:jeremy_barnum@nps.gov)>, April Slayton <[april\\_slayton@nps.gov](mailto:april_slayton@nps.gov)>, Jennifer Anzelmo-Sarles <[jenny\\_anzelmo-sarles@nps.gov](mailto:jenny_anzelmo-sarles@nps.gov)>, Michael Litterst <[mike\\_litterst@nps.gov](mailto:mike_litterst@nps.gov)>  
**Cc:** "Adamchik, Brandi" <[brandi\\_adamchik@nps.gov](mailto:brandi_adamchik@nps.gov)>

FYI - Feel free to call if there are any questions

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Baynard Woods** <[baynardwoods@gmail.com](mailto:baynardwoods@gmail.com)>

Date: Wed, Sep 20, 2017 at 9:30 AM

Subject: Story on officer (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

To: [anna\\_rose@nps.gov](mailto:anna_rose@nps.gov)

Hi Sgt. Rose,

Here is the story. I posted last night but my column is syndicated so I wait until the other papers pick it up before I push it out.

I do not name the officer in the story but can see the nametag. Can you confirm the officer's name for me? We have FOIA'd rosters and time sheets for that day.

<https://democracyincrisis.com/2017/09/19/they-work-for-me-u-s-park-police-officer-says-of-militia-member-at-far-right-rally/>

Thanks a million,

Baynard

--

Sergeant Anna Rose

Public Information Officer

United States Park Police

[1100 Ohio Drive, S.W.](#)

[Washington, D.C. 20242](#)

Mobile (202) 556-9181

@usparkpolicepio

[www.facebook.com/USParkPolice/](http://www.facebook.com/USParkPolice/)

**To:** Newell, Russell[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov]; Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Rigas, Laura  
**Sent:** 2017-12-28T17:10:17-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd: Travel Packages - Invitation to collaborate  
**Received:** 2017-12-28T17:10:25-05:00

FYI, these will be posted on the FOIA website tomorrow.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Nicholas Banco (via Google Drive)** <[drive-shares-noreply@google.com](mailto:drive-shares-noreply@google.com)>  
Date: Thu, Dec 21, 2017 at 11:47 AM  
Subject: Travel Packages - Invitation to collaborate  
To: [laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)  
Cc: [clarice\\_julka@ios.doi.gov](mailto:clarice_julka@ios.doi.gov), [robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov), [ryan\\_mcquighan@ios.doi.gov](mailto:ryan_mcquighan@ios.doi.gov), [downey\\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov](mailto:downey_magallanes@ios.doi.gov), [gareth\\_rees@ios.doi.gov](mailto:gareth_rees@ios.doi.gov), [jennifer.heindl@sol.doi.gov](mailto:jennifer.heindl@sol.doi.gov)

nicholas\_banco@ios.doi.gov has invited you to **contribute to** the following shared folder:

## Travel Packages

Good morning everyone,

In anticipation of the Department's final response to active litigation, please find bracketed and redacted copies of DMU provided travel packages which include materials generated by the Secretary and Mr. Bernhardt. To expedite review, the files have been organized by their custodian's last name.

Jennifer Heindl of the solicitor's office has approved the proposed withholdings and I have included her comments, which have been integrated into the packages, for reference.

The AUSA associated with the litigation desires to review the set on December 29, 2017 and process it for release. OS intends to post the set through its library before then to more efficiently resolve the case. Please complete your reviews prior to COB December 28, 2017 to allow for processing on our end.

Because Jennifer and Clarice are (b) (6) next week please contact either Ryan McQuighan or myself with any concerns.

Thanks,

Nick

[Open](#)

Google Drive: Have all your files within reach from any device.

Google Inc. [1600 Amphitheatre Parkway, Mountain View, CA 94043, USA](https://www.google.com)

**To:** heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov];  
micah\_chambers@ios.doi.gov[micah\_chambers@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Todd Willens  
**Sent:** 2017-09-08T15:26:12-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd: URGENT NOTIFICATION: Olympic NP to close U.S. 101 for 4 days starting Monday  
**Received:** 2017-09-08T15:26:21-04:00  
[ATT00001.htm](#)  
[8-Sept Highway 101 full closure.pdf](#)

FYI.

Todd Willens  
Assistant Deputy Secretary  
Acting Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW - MIB Room 6116  
Washington, DC 20240

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Foster, Maureen" <[maureen\\_foster@ios.doi.gov](mailto:maureen_foster@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Date:** September 8, 2017 at 3:14:48 PM EDT  
**To:** Todd Willens <[todd\\_willens@ios.doi.gov](mailto:todd_willens@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Subject:** Fwd: URGENT NOTIFICATION: Olympic NP to close U.S. 101 for 4 days starting Monday

---

Maureen D. Foster  
Chief of Staff  
Office of the Assistant Secretary  
for Fish and Wildlife and Parks  
1849 C Street, NW, Room 3161  
Washington, DC 20240

202.208.5970 (desk)  
202.208.4416 (main)

[Maureen\\_Foster@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Maureen_Foster@ios.doi.gov)

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Wyse, Jennifer <[jennifer\\_wyse@nps.gov](mailto:jennifer_wyse@nps.gov)>  
**Date:** Fri, Sep 8, 2017 at 2:47 PM  
**Subject:** Fwd: URGENT NOTIFICATION: Olympic NP to close U.S. 101 for 4 days starting Monday  
**To:** Maureen Foster <[maureen\\_foster@ios.doi.gov](mailto:maureen_foster@ios.doi.gov)>

FYI

\*\*\*\*\*

Jennifer Wyse  
Chief of Staff (Acting)  
National Park Service  
202-513-7205

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Slayton, April** <[april\\_slayton@nps.gov](mailto:april_slayton@nps.gov)>  
Date: Fri, Sep 8, 2017 at 2:43 PM  
Subject: Fwd: URGENT NOTIFICATION: Olympic NP to close U.S. 101 for 4 days starting Monday  
To: Jennifer Wyse <[jennifer\\_wyse@nps.gov](mailto:jennifer_wyse@nps.gov)>, Bob Vogel <[bob\\_vogel@nps.gov](mailto:bob_vogel@nps.gov)>

FYI

--

April Slayton  
Assistant Director for Communications  
National Park Service  
Visit us at [www.nps.gov](http://www.nps.gov)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Munoz, Andrew** <[andrew\\_munoz@nps.gov](mailto:andrew_munoz@nps.gov)>  
Date: Fri, Sep 8, 2017 at 12:09 PM  
Subject: URGENT NOTIFICATION: Olympic NP to close U.S. 101 for 4 days starting Monday  
To: April Slayton <[april\\_slayton@nps.gov](mailto:april_slayton@nps.gov)>, Kathy Kupper <[kathy\\_kupper@nps.gov](mailto:kathy_kupper@nps.gov)>, Deanna Mitchell <[deanna\\_mitchell@nps.gov](mailto:deanna_mitchell@nps.gov)>, Chris Colvin <[christopher\\_colvin@nps.gov](mailto:christopher_colvin@nps.gov)>, Laura Joss <[laura\\_joss@nps.gov](mailto:laura_joss@nps.gov)>, "Barnum, Jeremy" <[jeremy\\_barnum@nps.gov](mailto:jeremy_barnum@nps.gov)>  
Cc: "Burkhart, Stephanie" <[stephanie\\_burkhart@nps.gov](mailto:stephanie_burkhart@nps.gov)>, Craig Dalby <[craig\\_dalby@nps.gov](mailto:craig_dalby@nps.gov)>, Sarah Creachbaum <[sarah\\_creachbaum@nps.gov](mailto:sarah_creachbaum@nps.gov)>, Lee Taylor <[lee\\_taylor@nps.gov](mailto:lee_taylor@nps.gov)>, "Winter, Brian" <[brian\\_winter@nps.gov](mailto:brian_winter@nps.gov)>, Penny Wagner <[penny\\_wagner@nps.gov](mailto:penny_wagner@nps.gov)>

FYI - OLYM will be sending the attached news release out at 1 p.m. PDT.

ISSUE: Federal Highways construction on U.S. 101 within OLYM.

SITUATION: Federal Highways has asked the park to close U.S. 101 for four days straight starting next Monday. This is a major thoroughfare for local traffic. Previously announced closures were expected to be 4 to 6 hours at a time to

conduct rock scaling. However, there have been some close calls with rock falls that have damaged vehicles. Fearing further damage and possible injury, the decision was made late yesterday to institute a full closure. Alternate routes are available, but will increase drive-time.

POSTURE: Active. The park will be issuing a news release at 1 p.m PDT. Notifications to local, state and federal partners and elected officials is occurring now.

**Andrew S. Muñoz**

Regional Spokesman & FOIA Program Manager

National Park Service  
**Pacific West Region, Office of Public Information**

206 220-4260 phone

206 475-4598 cell

[andrew\\_munoz@nps.gov](mailto:andrew_munoz@nps.gov)

Find us on online at: <https://nps.gov/pwro> (public) & <http://go.nps.gov/pwr> (InsideNPS intranet)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Wagner, Penny** <[penny\\_wagner@nps.gov](mailto:penny_wagner@nps.gov)>

Date: Fri, Sep 8, 2017 at 8:01 AM

Subject: Olympic NP News Release: Lake Crescent Highway 101 to Close Beginning Monday for Public Safety Until Completion of Rock Scaling Work

To: Andrew Muñoz <[andrew\\_munoz@nps.gov](mailto:andrew_munoz@nps.gov)>

Cc: Brian Winter <[brian\\_winter@nps.gov](mailto:brian_winter@nps.gov)>, Lee Taylor <[lee\\_taylor@nps.gov](mailto:lee_taylor@nps.gov)>

Hello,

Here is the press release regarding the full closure of Highway 101 at Lake Crescent beginning on Monday, September 11.

Thank you,

Penny

-----  
Penny Wagner  
Acting Public Information Officer  
Olympic National Park  
600 East Park Avenue  
Port Angeles, WA 98362-6798  
Office: (360) 565-3005  
Cell: (360)477-5326

[Olympic National Park website](#)

[Lake Crescent Highway 101 Rehabilitation Project 2017-19](#)

[www.findyourpark.com](http://www.findyourpark.com)

**To:** Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]; Laura Rigas[laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov]; Russell Newell[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov]; Rebecca Matulka[rebecca\_matulka@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Ross, Paul  
**Sent:** 2017-09-08T12:19:38-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd: URGENT NOTIFICATION: Olympic NP to close U.S. 101 for 4 days starting Monday  
**Received:** 2017-09-08T12:19:46-04:00  
[8-Sept Highway 101 full closure.pdf](#)

FYI.

**Paul R. Ross**

Senior Public Affairs Specialist  
Office of Communications  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
Office: (202) 501-4633 | Cell: (202) 507-1689

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Kupper, Kathy <[kathy\\_kupper@nps.gov](mailto:kathy_kupper@nps.gov)>  
**Date:** Fri, Sep 8, 2017 at 12:17 PM  
**Subject:** Fwd: URGENT NOTIFICATION: Olympic NP to close U.S. 101 for 4 days starting Monday  
**To:** Paul Ross <[paul\\_ross@ios.doi.gov](mailto:paul_ross@ios.doi.gov)>

**Kathy Kupper**

Public Affairs Specialist  
Office of Communications  
National Park Service  
(202)513-7263  
[www.nps.gov](http://www.nps.gov)

The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA ®

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Munoz, Andrew <[andrew\\_munoz@nps.gov](mailto:andrew_munoz@nps.gov)>  
**Date:** Fri, Sep 8, 2017 at 12:09 PM  
**Subject:** URGENT NOTIFICATION: Olympic NP to close U.S. 101 for 4 days starting Monday  
**To:** April Slayton <[april\\_slayton@nps.gov](mailto:april_slayton@nps.gov)>, Kathy Kupper <[kathy\\_kupper@nps.gov](mailto:kathy_kupper@nps.gov)>, Deanna Mitchell <[deanna\\_mitchell@nps.gov](mailto:deanna_mitchell@nps.gov)>, Chris Colvin <[christopher\\_colvin@nps.gov](mailto:christopher_colvin@nps.gov)>, Laura Joss <[laura\\_joss@nps.gov](mailto:laura_joss@nps.gov)>, "Barnum, Jeremy" <[jeremy\\_barnum@nps.gov](mailto:jeremy_barnum@nps.gov)>  
**Cc:** "Burkhart, Stephanie" <[stephanie\\_burkhart@nps.gov](mailto:stephanie_burkhart@nps.gov)>, Craig Dalby <[craig\\_dalby@nps.gov](mailto:craig_dalby@nps.gov)>, Sarah Creachbaum <[sarah\\_creachbaum@nps.gov](mailto:sarah_creachbaum@nps.gov)>, Lee Taylor <[lee\\_taylor@nps.gov](mailto:lee_taylor@nps.gov)>, "Winter, Brian" <[brian\\_winter@nps.gov](mailto:brian_winter@nps.gov)>, Penny Wagner <[penny\\_wagner@nps.gov](mailto:penny_wagner@nps.gov)>



FYI - OLYM will be sending the attached news release out at 1 p.m. PDT.

ISSUE: Federal Highways construction on U.S. 101 within OLYM.

SITUATION: Federal Highways has asked the park to close U.S. 101 for four days straight starting next Monday. This is a major thoroughfare for local traffic. Previously announced closures were expected to be 4 to 6 hours at a time to conduct rock scaling. However, there have been some close calls with rock falls that have damaged vehicles. Fearing further damage and possible injury, the decision was made late yesterday to institute a full closure. Alternate routes are available, but will increase drive-time.

POSTURE: Active. The park will be issuing a news release at 1 p.m PDT. Notifications to local, state and federal partners and elected officials is occurring now.

**Andrew S. Muñoz**

Regional Spokesman & FOIA Program Manager

National Park Service  
**Pacific West Region, Office of Public Information**

206 220-4260 phone

206 475-4598 cell

[andrew\\_munoz@nps.gov](mailto:andrew_munoz@nps.gov)

Find us on online at: <https://nps.gov/pwro> (public) & <http://go.nps.gov/pwr> (InsideNPS intranet)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Wagner, Penny** <[penny\\_wagner@nps.gov](mailto:penny_wagner@nps.gov)>

Date: Fri, Sep 8, 2017 at 8:01 AM

Subject: Olympic NP News Release: Lake Crescent Highway 101 to Close Beginning Monday for Public Safety Until Completion of Rock Scaling Work

To: Andrew Muñoz <[andrew\\_munoz@nps.gov](mailto:andrew_munoz@nps.gov)>

Cc: Brian Winter <[brian\\_winter@nps.gov](mailto:brian_winter@nps.gov)>, Lee Taylor <[lee\\_taylor@nps.gov](mailto:lee_taylor@nps.gov)>

Hello,

Here is the press release regarding the full closure of Highway 101 at Lake CRescent beginning on Monday, September 11.

Thank you,

Penny

-----  
Penny Wagner  
Acting Public Information Officer  
Olympic National Park

600 East Park Avenue  
Port Angeles, WA 98362-6798  
Office: (360) 565-3005  
Cell: (360)477-5326

[Olympic National Park website](#)

[Lake Crescent Highway 101 Rehabilitation Project 2017-19](#)

[www.findyourpark.com](http://www.findyourpark.com)

**To:** downey\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov[downey\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov]; Todd Willens[todd\_willens@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]; Russell Newell[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Laura Rigas  
**Sent:** 2017-12-15T18:33:08-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd: URGENT-REPORTER ON DEADLINE: WaPo on Zim elephant permits issued  
**Received:** 2017-12-15T18:33:17-05:00

F&W got this inquiry at 2:26pm and did not tell us. See below.

Laura Keehner Rigas  
Communications Director  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 897-7022 cell  
@Interior

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Newell, Russell" <[russell\\_newell@ios.doi.gov](mailto:russell_newell@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Date:** December 15, 2017 at 6:13:45 PM EST  
**To:** Laura Rigas <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)>, Heather Swift <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Subject:** Fwd: URGENT-REPORTER ON DEADLINE: WaPo on Zim elephant permits issued

Barbara just called me and sent me this -

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Barbara Wainman <[barbara\\_wainman@fws.gov](mailto:barbara_wainman@fws.gov)>  
**Date:** Fri, Dec 15, 2017 at 5:47 PM  
**Subject:** Fwd: URGENT-REPORTER ON DEADLINE: WaPo on Zim elephant permits issued  
**To:** [russell\\_newell@ios.doi.gov](mailto:russell_newell@ios.doi.gov)

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Parramore, Laury" <[laury\\_parramore@fws.gov](mailto:laury_parramore@fws.gov)>  
**Date:** December 15, 2017 at 3:35:25 PM EST

**To:** Barbara Wainman <[barbara\\_wainman@fws.gov](mailto:barbara_wainman@fws.gov)>  
**Cc:** Gavin Shire <[gavin\\_shire@fws.gov](mailto:gavin_shire@fws.gov)>  
**Subject:** Fwd: URGENT-REPORTER ON DEADLINE: WaPo on Zim elephant permits issued

So sorry for just now looping you in on this. Happening very quickly and a 4:30 p.m. deadline.

Laury Marshall Parramore  
Assistant Chief, Public Affairs  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
MS: EA  
[5275 Leesburg Pike](#)  
[Falls Church, VA 22041-3803](#)  
703/358 2541 -- direct  
703/589 6947 -- mobile

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Parramore, Laury <[laury\\_parramore@fws.gov](mailto:laury_parramore@fws.gov)>  
**Date:** Fri, Dec 15, 2017 at 3:26 PM  
**Subject:** Re: URGENT-REPORTER ON DEADLINE: WaPo on Zim elephant permits issued  
**To:** Gavin Shire <[gavin\\_shire@fws.gov](mailto:gavin_shire@fws.gov)>, Barbara Wainman <[barbara\\_wainman@fws.gov](mailto:barbara_wainman@fws.gov)>  
**Cc:** Danielle Kessler <[danielle\\_kessler@fws.gov](mailto:danielle_kessler@fws.gov)>, "Vannorman, Tim" <[tim\\_vannorman@fws.gov](mailto:tim_vannorman@fws.gov)>

Hi all, just spoke with Tim. Based on our conversation, here is a recommended statement. Wording is very important here given some nuances about the situation. Let me know if we need a quick call to discuss.

OTR: "All valid permits issued for Zimbabwe elephant (trophies?) since 2016 have been for elephants (trophies?) that were taken in Zimbabwe prior to May 12, 2014, when the Service's current(?) negative finding went into effect.

Background: Prior to 2016 did not have to issue import permits under the ESA.

Laury Marshall Parramore  
Assistant Chief, Public Affairs  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
MS: EA  
[5275 Leesburg Pike](#)

[Falls Church, VA 22041-3803](#)  
703/358 2541 -- direct  
703/589 6947 -- mobile

On Fri, Dec 15, 2017 at 3:13 PM, Vannorman, Tim <[tim\\_vannorman@fws.gov](mailto:tim_vannorman@fws.gov)>  
wrote:

Laury,  
Have the information we need.

FoA probably did get the information via a FOIA request.

We did issue all of the permits for Zimbabwe elephants that they mention, but with the exception of Crippen, all of the elephants were taken before May 12, 2014 the date that our negative finding went into effect. Any elephant taken before that date, would fall under our previous positive finding.

We made a mistake with Crippen. His application states that he hunted two elephants in Zimbabwe in 2017 and that the trophies were being RE-EXPORTED from South Africa. However, we issued the permit for the import of two trophies taken in SOUTH AFRICA. We will have to contact Mr. Crippen and inform him that his permit is invalid and the trophy would be seized if it was imported since our permit would not match the information that would appear on his export permit. We will need to continue to process Mr. Crippen's application and will not be issuing or denying his application at this time.

Tim

On Fri, Dec 15, 2017 at 3:03 PM, Parramore, Laury <[laury\\_parramore@fws.gov](mailto:laury_parramore@fws.gov)>  
wrote:

4:30 p.m. today is Darryl's deadline. No wiggle room.

Laury Marshall Parramore  
Assistant Chief, Public Affairs  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
MS: EA  
[5275 Leesburg Pike](#)  
[Falls Church, VA 22041-3803](#)  
703/358 2541 -- direct  
703/589 6947 -- mobile

On Fri, Dec 15, 2017 at 2:52 PM, Vannorman, Tim <[tim\\_vannorman@fws.gov](mailto:tim_vannorman@fws.gov)> wrote:

All,  
I am looking into the records to figure out what is up. I will get back to you asap.

Tim

On Fri, Dec 15, 2017 at 2:37 PM, Hires, Brian <[brian\\_hires@fws.gov](mailto:brian_hires@fws.gov)> wrote:

Laury,  
Darryl called me about this earlier and I asked him to write or call you. Since this is your terrain and I know nothing about it, it was a pretty short conversation.

Brian

On Fri, Dec 15, 2017 at 2:33 PM, Parramore, Laury <[laury\\_parramore@fws.gov](mailto:laury_parramore@fws.gov)> wrote:

???

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Fears, Darryl** <[Darryl.Fears@washpost.com](mailto:Darryl.Fears@washpost.com)>  
Date: Fri, Dec 15, 2017 at 2:26 PM  
Subject: Secretly issued elephant trophy permits via Zimbabwe  
To: "Parramore, Laury" <[laury\\_parramore@fws.gov](mailto:laury_parramore@fws.gov)>, "Hires, Brian" <[brian\\_hires@fws.gov](mailto:brian_hires@fws.gov)>

Hi Laury and Brian,

Still hoping to follow up our chat last month as promised. Meantime, there's this:

Friends of Animals is reporting that FWS secretly issued permits to import elephant trophies from Zimbabwe long before the ban was issued per this post on its web site,  
<https://friendsofanimals.org/news/feds-secretly-issued-zimbabwe-elephant-trophy-permits/>

I'm trying to determine how much of what it says is true. It appears that the information is the result of a Freedom of Information request and is legitimate. FoA names each of the 16 individuals who were granted permits. We're planning a story immediately and would like a response. Thanks to you both.

Darryl

Darryl Fears

Staff Writer

The Washington Post

202.334.7511

[darryl.fears@washpost.com](mailto:darryl.fears@washpost.com)

Twitter: @bydarrylfears

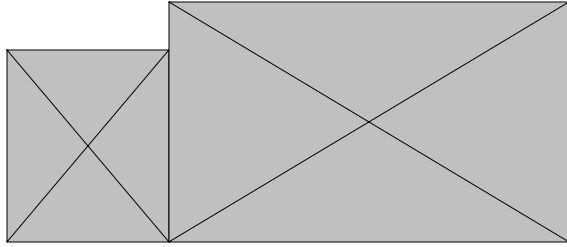
--

[Brian Hires](#)  
Division of Public Affairs  
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service - Headquarters  
[5275 Leesburg Pike](#)  
[Falls Church, VA 22041](#)  
Office: (703) 358-2191  
Cell: (703) 346-9941

--

Timothy J. Van Norman, Chief  
Branch of Permits  
Division of Management Authority  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
(703) 358-2350

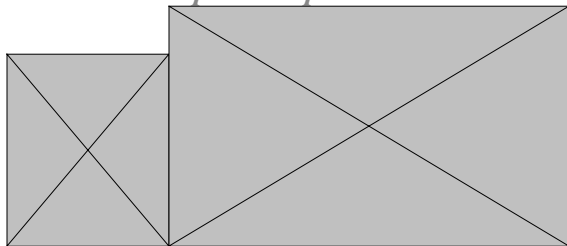
***[Sign up](#) for our e-newsletter to learn how we're working around the globe to protect species and their habitats!***



--

Timothy J. Van Norman, Chief  
Branch of Permits  
Division of Management Authority  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
(703) 358-2350

***Sign up*** for our e-newsletter to learn how we're working around the globe to  
***protect species and their habitats!***





**To:** Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]; Alex Hinson[alex\_hinson@ios.doi.gov]; Paul Ross[paul\_ross@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Eileen Angelico[eileen.angelico@bsee.gov]  
**From:** Julian, Gregory  
**Sent:** 2018-01-08T11:15:31-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd: USA TODAY  
**Received:** 2018-01-08T11:15:59-05:00  
[proposal.pdf](#)

To all,

We just received this request to provide an OpEd from Scott arguing our position on the regulatory review. We're working on a decision briefing to Scott to determine the way forward. I have already told Gregg Zoroya that if we decide to respond we will meet the second deadline.

Best,  
Greg

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Zoroya, Gregg <[gzoroya@usatoday.com](mailto:gzoroya@usatoday.com)>  
**Date:** Mon, Jan 8, 2018 at 9:16 AM  
**Subject:** USA TODAY  
**To:** "[Gregory.Julian@bsee.gov](mailto:Gregory.Julian@bsee.gov)" <[Gregory.Julian@bsee.gov](mailto:Gregory.Julian@bsee.gov)>

Dear Greg,

My name is Gregg Zoroya. I'm a writer on the USA TODAY editorial board. I'm writing on behalf of the USA TODAY editorial page to invite Director Scott Angelle to participate in an editorial debate about his proposal (attached above) to eliminate safety restrictions placed on oil and gas drilling that were largely implemented in November of 2016. Our page typically features an "our view" along with an "opposing view" from a guest writer to show readers the arguments from different sides of the story. We're going to say that while the government can clearly open new offshore areas to oil and gas drilling, it's important to allow safety restrictions imposed after the Deepwater Horizon rig disaster to remain in place. We're looking to Director Angelle to provide an opposing view.

We would need 320 words. We are exploring whether to run this as a debate online this evening and in print tomorrow, in which case we would need his opposing view by 4 p.m. However, realizing that is a tight schedule, we could push this back to running it online Tuesday evening and in print on Wednesday. That would mean a deadline of receiving his view by 2 p.m., Tuesday, Jan. 9. The piece should be sent to me at [gzoroya@usatoday.com](mailto:gzoroya@usatoday.com) and editorial page editor Bill Sternberg at [bsternbe@usatoday.com](mailto:bsternbe@usatoday.com). Please let me know as soon as possible if Director Angelle is interested in participating in this opportunity and, if so, what deadline would work for him.

Yours,

Gregg Zoroya

(b) (6)

Please note: We reserve the right to write headlines and to edit for space, style, accuracy and clarity. Factual assertions should be backed up with sources or hyperlinks, and you should alert us to any conflicts of interest. If any significant changes are made, we will show you the edited version prior to publication. The timing of publication often depends on the flow of breaking news.

--

**Greg Julian**

Press Secretary

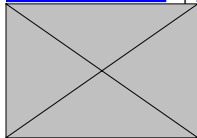
Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement

O: 202-208-6184

M: 202-412-8375

[Gregory.Julian@bsee.gov](mailto:Gregory.Julian@bsee.gov)

<http://www.bsee.gov/> | <https://www.linkedin.com/company/bureau-of-safety-and-environmental-enforcement> | <https://twitter.com/BSEEGov> | <https://www.facebook.com/BSEEGov/>



**To:** Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]; Russell Newell[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov]; Todd Willens[todd\_willens@ios.doi.gov]; Downey Magallanes[downey\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov]; Scott Hommel[scott\_hommel@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Laura Rigas  
**Sent:** 2017-08-27T11:16:19-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd: USGS FOIA 2017-00166 - Zuckerberg Record to be Released  
**Received:** 2017-08-27T11:16:40-04:00  
[ATT00001.htm](#)  
[USGS FOIA 2017-00166 - Interim Release #1 \(58 pages\).pdf](#)

FYI.

Laura Keehner Rigas  
Communications Director  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 897-7022 cell  
@Interior

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Howarth, Robert" <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)>  
**To:** Laura Rigas <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Subject:** Fwd: USGS FOIA 2017-00166 - Zuckerberg Record to be Released

Hi Laura. FYI for you.

Rob

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Freedom of Inform

**ation Act, GS-D-EI\_** <[foia@usgs.gov](mailto:foia@usgs.gov)>

Date: Fri, Aug 25, 2017 at 6:00 PM

Subject: Fwd: USGS FOIA 2017-00166 - Zuckerberg Record to be Released

To: Robert Howarth <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)>

Cc: GS-GIO Freedom of Information Act <[foia@usgs.gov](mailto:foia@usgs.gov)>

Good afternoon Rob,

For situational awareness I am writing to let you know that today we released the set of records (attached) previously released to MuckRock to the following entities:

2017-00168 - Kathleen Casey (& Pat Dennis) of American Bridge  
2017-00170 - Austin Evers (American Oversight)  
2017-00175 - Alexander Rony of Sierra Club (submitted via MuckRock)  
2017-00194 - Lisa Rein (The Washington Post)

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Litsa Marinos  
Government Information Specialist  
U.S. Geological Survey  
Department of the Interior  
12201 Sunrise Valley Drive  
Mail Stop 159  
Reston, VA 20192  
(703) 648-7179 (office)  
(703) 648-7199 (fax)  
[foia@usgs.gov](mailto:foia@usgs.gov)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Freedom of Information Act, GS-D-EI\_** <[foia@usgs.gov](mailto:foia@usgs.gov)>  
Date: Fri, Aug 18, 2017 at 3:34 PM  
Subject: USGS FOIA 2017-00166 - Zuckerberg Record to be Released  
To: Robert Howarth <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)>  
Cc: GS-GIO Freedom of Information Act <[foia@usgs.gov](mailto:foia@usgs.gov)>

Good afternoon Rob,

I am sharing with you a copy of the record we intend to send to MuckRock next week (Thursday, August 24, 2017). If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me at [foia@usgs.gov](mailto:foia@usgs.gov), or by phone at (703) 648-7179.

Thank you!

Sincerely,

Litsa Marinos  
Government Information Specialist  
U.S. Geological Survey  
Department of the Interior  
12201 Sunrise Valley Drive  
Mail Stop 159  
Reston, VA 20192  
(703) 648-7179 (office)  
(703) 648-7199 (fax)  
[foia@usgs.gov](mailto:foia@usgs.gov)

--

Robert Howarth

Deputy Director for Correspondence and FOIA Management  
Office of the Executive Secretariat and Regulatory Affairs  
Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20240  
202-208-3181  
202-208-4451 (direct)  
202-549-8961 (cell)

**To:** Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]; Russell Newell[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Laura Rigas  
**Sent:** 2017-08-20T22:03:57-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd: USGS FOIA 2017-00166 - Zuckerberg Record to be Released  
**Received:** 2017-08-20T22:04:10-04:00  
[ATT00001.htm](#)  
[USGS FOIA 2017-00166 - Interim Release #1 \(60 pages\).pdf](#)

Laura Keehner Rigas  
Communications Director  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 897-7022 cell  
@Interior

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Howarth, Robert" <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)>  
**To:** Laura Rigas <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Subject:** Fwd: USGS FOIA 2017-00166 - Zuckerberg Record to be Released

Laura, another FOIA for your awareness and review.

Any questions, please call me.

Rob

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Freedom of Information Act, GS-D-EI\_ <[foia@usgs.gov](mailto:foia@usgs.gov)>  
**Date:** Fri, Aug 18, 2017 at 3:34 PM  
**Subject:** USGS FOIA 2017-00166 - Zuckerberg Record to be Released  
**To:** Robert Howarth <[robert\\_howarth@ios.doi.gov](mailto:robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Cc:** GS-GIO Freedom of Information Act <[foia@usgs.gov](mailto:foia@usgs.gov)>

Good afternoon Rob,

I am sharing with you a copy of the record we intend to send to MuckRock next week (Thursday, August 24, 2017). If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me at [foia@usgs.gov](mailto:foia@usgs.gov), or by phone at (703) 648-7179.

Thank you!

Sincerely,

Litsa Marinos  
Government Information Specialist  
U.S. Geological Survey  
Department of the Interior  
12201 Sunrise Valley Drive

Mail Stop 159  
Reston, VA 20192  
(703) 648-7179 (office)  
(703) 648-7199 (fax)  
[foia@usgs.gov](mailto:foia@usgs.gov)

--

Robert Howarth  
Deputy Director for Correspondence and FOIA Management  
Office of the Executive Secretariat and Regulatory Affairs  
Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20240  
202-208-3181  
202-208-4451 (direct)  
202-549-8961 (cell)

**To:** Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]; Russell Newell[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov]; Paul Ross[paul\_ross@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** April Slayton[april\_slayton@nps.gov]  
**From:** Barnum, Jeremy  
**Sent:** 2017-08-25T12:11:37-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd: VICE comment request, re: FOIA Dan Fagre/Mark Zuckerberg mtg  
**Received:** 2017-08-25T13:47:43-04:00

DOI Colleagues,  
FYI on the below Vice query. We're not going to comment.

Thanks,

Jeremy K. Barnum  
Public Affairs Officer  
National Park Service  
Office: (202) 513-7262



Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Sarah Emerson <[sarah.emerson@vice.com](mailto:sarah.emerson@vice.com)>  
**Date:** August 24, 2017 at 9:06:26 PM EDT  
**To:** Tom Crosson <[thomas\\_crosson@nps.gov](mailto:thomas_crosson@nps.gov)>  
**Subject:** VICE comment request, re: FOIA Dan Fagre/Mark Zuckerberg mtg

Hi Tom,

Sorry to bug you so late, but I just received documents from USGS pertaining to Dan Fagre's cancelled meeting with Mark Zuckerberg. The documents that I received via a FOIA request include planning emails, correspondence with Facebook, and press inquiries/responses to them.

One of the emails (screenshot attached), from Michael Reynolds to select DOI and NPS staff, contains the following:

"Note: USGS participant is Dan Fagre, climate change scientist. Concerns about his participation should be routed through the USGS chain."

I'm curious to know what types of concerns Reynolds is referring to. It's still unclear as to why Fagre was so abruptly removed from the delegation, but as you probably know, it's been speculated that the Trump administration did not want to draw attention to his climate change research.



Would love to get NPS' comment on this particular point. We're publishing our story tomorrow morning, and I've already reached out to Heather Swift at DOI.

All the best,  
Sarah

--

Sarah Emerson  
Writer, MOTHERBOARD

---



---

VICE Media Group  
90 N. 11th St.  
Brooklyn, NY 11211  
Cell/Signal: 808-554-7531  
[@sarahnemerson](#)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Reynolds, Michael** <[michael\\_reynolds@nps.gov](mailto:michael_reynolds@nps.gov)>  
Date: Mon, Jul 10, 2017 at 5:31 PM  
Subject: regarding Glacier  
To: Virginia Johnson <[virginia\\_johnson@ios.doi.gov](mailto:virginia_johnson@ios.doi.gov)>, Maureen Foster <[maureen\\_foster@ios.doi.gov](mailto:maureen_foster@ios.doi.gov)>  
Cc: Bob Vogel <[Bob\\_Vogel@nps.gov](mailto:Bob_Vogel@nps.gov)>

The park/region propose the following:

- NPS participation on the tour will be the deputy superintendent, Eric Smith. (Note: USGS participant is Dan Fagre, climate change scientist. Concerns about his participation should be routed through the USGS chain.)
- NPS does not intend to issue any press release or participate in any press event/conference associated with this visit.
- NPS does not intend to post anything about this visit on our public-facing website, nor to post to the park's Facebook page. We cannot control what someone else posts to their sites. (We understand USGS has received approval to post on their Facebook page; concerns about that should be routed through the USGS chain.)
- NPS is not taking any extraordinary measures for this visit different than what we normally do for VIPs.

Please let me or the park know if there are further refinements needed. I have purposely included the park and IMRO on this message so we're all on the same page. Thanks.

**To:** Todd Willens[todd\_willens@ios.doi.gov]; Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Newell, Russell  
**Sent:** 2017-09-26T17:18:10-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Fwd: water bottle report  
**Received:** 2017-09-26T17:18:53-04:00

The Hill didn't give us a chance to respond to their water bottle story. I thought that might have been the case. will send statement once I get it.

Russell Newell  
Deputy Director of Communications  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 208-6232  
@Interior

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Kupper, Kathy <[kathy\\_kupper@nps.gov](mailto:kathy_kupper@nps.gov)>  
**Date:** Tue, Sep 26, 2017 at 12:52 PM  
**Subject:** Re: water bottle report  
**To:** April Slayton <[april\\_slayton@nps.gov](mailto:april_slayton@nps.gov)>  
**Cc:** "Newell, Russell" <[russell\\_newell@ios.doi.gov](mailto:russell_newell@ios.doi.gov)>, Jeremy Barnum <[jeremy\\_barnum@nps.gov](mailto:jeremy_barnum@nps.gov)>, "Ross, Paul" <[paul\\_ross@ios.doi.gov](mailto:paul_ross@ios.doi.gov)>

I did receive a email from The Hill yesterday and responded that we would get back to him today. He didn't give us a deadline and I never heard back from him. We also touched base with him this morning.

Jeff Olson is working with Steve Olig from NPS Facilities on a statement that we will send to DOI for review/approval.

Kathy Kupper  
Public Affairs Specialist  
Office of Communications  
National Park Service  
(202)513-7263  
[www.nps.gov](http://www.nps.gov)

The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA ®

On Tue, Sep 26, 2017 at 11:05 AM, April Slayton <[april\\_slayton@nps.gov](mailto:april_slayton@nps.gov)> wrote:

Copying Kathy, who is acting for Jeremy. I think The Hill did reach out, but we were not able to touch base with the policy staff responsible for this issue before COB yesterday, and I am in back to back meetings all day today. Kathy, can you connect with Patrick Gregerson to get more info on the FOIA?

Sent from my iPad

On Sep 26, 2017, at 11:01 AM, Newell, Russell <[russell\\_newell@ios.doi.gov](mailto:russell_newell@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

just wondering if The Hill ever even reached out to us to comment for this article.

<http://thehill.com/policy/energy-environment/352330-park-service-report-obama-water-bottle-policy-had-significant>

Russell Newell  
Deputy Director of Communications  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 208-6232  
@Interior

**To:** Rateike, Bradley A. EOP/WHO (b) (6) Kelly  
Love (b) (6) Laura Rigas[laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Swift, Heather  
**Sent:** 2017-12-21T15:18:45-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** FYI  
**Received:** 2017-12-21T15:19:32-05:00

Just some stories that are percolating

1. One of our bureaus, BSEE, paused a contract with the National Academies of Science for a study on their offshore work. NAS put out a [nasty press release](#) criticizing the Department for cancelling the study. BSEE is responding at their level that it was put on pause because it was a duplicate. Inquiries from BuzzFeed, WP, and some regional outlets.
2. Newsweek is asking about a helicopter aerial survey conducted during the monument review and two trips that never happened. I directed her to the FOIA reading room, noted we have cut the cost of charter airfare at DOI, and reminded her two of the trips she was asking about never happened.

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

**To:** Scott Hommel[scott\_hommel@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Swift, Heather  
**Sent:** 2017-09-20T15:07:38-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** FYI  
**Received:** 2017-09-20T15:08:24-04:00

Hi Heather,

We're preparing a story about the secretary's travel to Missoula in late August on a government jet (as opposed to commercial). The story will examine the associated cost to taxpayers. Earlier I submitted a related FOIA request to DOI and was told there was little information because no expense report had been filed by the secretary. That only partially answered the question since DOI might have paid the bill.

I'd like to know 1) the cost of Sec. Zinke's flight on government aircraft to Missoula 2) Whether the same aircraft or other government aircraft was used for his subsequent trip to Great Smoky Mountain National Park in Tennessee and the cost, if the aircraft was used 3) Any other trip for which the secretary used government aircraft during his term in office starting in March.

Also, the story will mention the secretary's trips to Montana, his home state, and will note his travel home as a mid-career officer at SEAL Team 6 in 1998 and 1999, in which he was reimbursed after filing expense reports for travel that was not official. Reports say Zinke repaid \$211. They also say it was explained as a misunderstanding but Zinke later admitted in private that he traveled to Montana to make home repairs.

I thought the secretary or someone at DOI might want to respond to all or at least part of this. We're trying to complete this story by end of business today (though I'm a little skeptical that we can). Thanks for considering.

Darryl

Darryl Fears

Staff Writer

The Washington Post

(b) (6)

[darryl.fears@washpost.com](mailto:darryl.fears@washpost.com)

**To:** Rateike, Bradley A. EOP/WHO (b) (6)]; Laura Rigas[laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Swift, Heather  
**Sent:** 2017-09-20T15:07:31-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** FYI  
**Received:** 2017-09-20T15:08:18-04:00

Hi Heather,

We're preparing a story about the secretary's travel to Missoula in late August on a government jet (as opposed to commercial). The story will examine the associated cost to taxpayers. Earlier I submitted a related FOIA request to DOI and was told there was little information because no expense report had been filed by the secretary. That only partially answered the question since DOI might have paid the bill.

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I thought the secretary or someone at DOI might want to respond to all or at least part of this. We're trying to complete this story by end of business today (though I'm a little skeptical that we can). Thanks for considering.

Darryl

Darryl Fears

Staff Writer

The Washington Post

(b) (6)

[darryl.fears@washpost.com](mailto:darryl.fears@washpost.com)

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec

[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

**To:** Rateike, Bradley A. EOP/WHO (b) (6) Dorr, Kaelan K.  
EOP/WHO (b) (6)  
**From:** Swift, Heather  
**Sent:** 2017-08-30T13:59:58-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** FYI - Emails show Interior halted climate scientist's Zuckerberg tour  
**Received:** 2017-08-30T14:01:40-04:00

Just a heads up, the FOIA articles are trickling on Glacier National Park.

## **Emails show Interior halted climate scientist's Zuckerberg tour**

Newly released emails provide details on how the Trump administration thwarted Facebook Inc. CEO Mark Zuckerberg's plan to tour Glacier National Park with two climate experts last month.

Zuckerberg, who had earlier criticized the president's decision to withdraw from the Paris climate agreement, had planned a tour with park Superintendent Jeff Mow and U.S. Geological Survey ecologist Daniel Fagre.

But both were pulled from the assignment after objections from the Interior Department, which oversees the national parks.

While it's unclear who made the final decision, the emails show that many top officials discussed the matter or were informed of it, including Interior Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary Virginia Johnson and Bob Vogel, acting deputy director of operations at the National Park Service.

"This seems like a lot of government resources to dedicate to a celebrity's personal PR tour," Interior Department spokeswoman Heather Swift said to Jeremy Barnum, an NPS spokesman, in an email July 12, three days before the visit.

Zuckerberg took the tour with rangers instead.

In a July 15 Facebook posting, Zuckerberg said the impact of climate change "is very clear at Glacier," with the temperature rising at three times the global average in the high elevations of Montana.

"We need to make sure that parks like Glacier — and the planet overall — are around for future generations to enjoy," Zuckerberg said in his posting.

*The Washington Post* reported July 20 that park officials spent many days discussing how to handle Zuckerberg's visit. Swift told the paper that allocating too many resources to the visit "would have been a waste of money and a disservice to average parkgoers."

The publication *Motherboard* then filed a request under the Freedom of Information Act to gain access to more than 300 pages of emails that offered a glimpse into the internal discussions of park officials and Zuckerberg's representatives. NPS posted the [emails](#) on its website.

Lauren Alley, a management assistant at Glacier, wrote a July 12 email to Facebook Communications Director Derick Mains saying that Mow and Fagre "can no longer participate" in Zuckerberg's tour. But she said the park's deputy superintendent and "other folks" would be able to "speak to some of the natural resource challenges the park faces."

Mains replied that Zuckerberg wanted to do the tour with the superintendent.

"This is really disappointing," he wrote.



Park public affairs employees were told not to post anything about Zuckerberg's visit on social media.

After the decision was made, NPS acting Director Michael Reynolds wrote an email saying that Glacier officials had been notified of the change and that the next step would be to "manage the talking point."

In his Facebook posting, Zuckerberg said the number of glaciers at Glacier National Park has decreased from 150 to 25 since the 1850s.

"In a couple of decades, there may not be any glaciers left in the park at all," he said.

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
[@DOIPressSec](#)

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
[@DOIPressSec](#)  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

**To:** David Bernhardt[dwbernhardt@ios.doi.gov]; Laura Rigas[laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov]; Brian Steed[bsteed@blm.gov]; Daniel Jorjani[daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov]  
**From:** Swift, Heather  
**Sent:** 2017-12-12T13:03:46-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** fyi - matt allen lawsuit  
**Received:** 2017-12-12T13:04:33-05:00

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 12, 2017

Contact: Katherine Atkinson, [katherine@wilkenfeldlaw.com](mailto:katherine@wilkenfeldlaw.com), (202)765-2253

Washington, D.C. - The law firm of Wilkenfeld, Herendeen & Atkinson announced today that it has filed suit in U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia against the Department of the Interior for failing to release records related to the demotion and reassignment of Matthew Allen, one of its Senior Executive Service employees. The lawsuit marks the second time in as many months that the firm has been forced to sue the DOI for failing to release records as required under the Freedom of Information Act.

The FOIA request, which was submitted to the DOI on Tuesday, October 10th, seeks documents related to the suspicious late September removal of Mr. Allen as the communications director at the Bureau of Land Management, as well as the nature of his subsequent reassignment to a non-specific public affairs role at the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement. Under the Freedom of Information Act, federal agencies have 20 business days to respond to information requests with the option of a 10 day extension.

“Federal agencies are required to release documents and records in a timely manner as part of their responsibility to transparency to the American people,” said Katherine Atkinson, Mr. Allen’s attorney.  
“Unfortunately, the DOI has once again failed to uphold this responsibility to the detriment of both my client and the public.”

Allen, an outspoken proponent for America’s public lands and recreational access, was selected for the top BLM communications position during the final months of the Obama administration. In this role he provided leadership to over 100 communications professionals across the country in public relations, legislative affairs, and external and regulatory affairs. He was removed from the position just weeks after more than 30 Senior Executives were also shuffled, which is currently being investigated by the Inspector General at the request of

Congress. Allen was replaced by a former Bush-era appointee amidst a flurry of whistleblowing and media reports of leaked documents from within the BLM and the DOI.

“My client’s demotion reeks of reprisal, and these documents will provide us the tools we require to prove that,” said Ms. Atkinson. “We look forward to uncovering what they are trying to hide.”

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

**To:** David Bernhardt[dwbernhardt@ios.doi.gov]; Scott Hommel[scott\_hommel@ios.doi.gov]; Laura Rigas[laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Swift, Heather  
**Sent:** 2017-09-20T16:55:17-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** FYI - Story about Z  
**Received:** 2017-09-20T16:56:04-04:00

FYI - Wash Post sent the inquiry below.

I talked them out of a story. But wanted to you to be aware it was of interest.

We're preparing a story about the secretary's travel to Missoula in late August on a government jet (as opposed to commercial). The story will examine the associated cost to taxpayers. Earlier I submitted a related FOIA request to DOI and was told there was little information because no expense report had been filed by the secretary. That only partially answered the question since DOI might have paid the bill.

I'd like to know 1) the cost of Sec. Zinke's flight on government aircraft to Missoula 2) Whether the same aircraft or other government aircraft was used for his subsequent trip to Great Smoky Mountain National Park in Tennessee and the cost, if the aircraft was used 3) Any other trip for which the secretary used government aircraft during his term in office starting in March.

Also, the story will mention the secretary's trips to Montana, his home state, and will note his travel home as a mid-career officer at SEAL Team 6 in 1998 and 1999, in which he was reimbursed after filing expense reports for travel that was not official. Reports say Zinke repaid \$211. They also say it was explained as a misunderstanding but Zinke later admitted in private that he traveled to Montana to make home repairs.

I thought the secretary or someone at DOI might want to respond to all or at least part of this. We're trying to complete this story by end of business today (though I'm a little skeptical that we can). Thanks for considering.

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

**To:** David Bernhardt[dwbernhardt@ios.doi.gov]; Willens, Todd[todd\_willens@ios.doi.gov]; Laura Rigas[laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov]; Russell Newell[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Swift, Heather  
**Sent:** 2017-08-30T13:59:19-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** fyi -- Emails show Interior halted climate scientist's Zuckerberg tour  
**Received:** 2017-08-30T14:24:39-04:00

## Emails show Interior halted climate scientist's Zuckerberg tour

**Rob Hotakainen**, E&E News reporter

*Published: Wednesday, August 30, 2017*

Internal emails show National Park Service officials discussed whether federal climate scientists could meet with Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg during his trip to Glacier National Park. [Zuckerberg/Facebook](#)

Newly released emails provide details on how the Trump administration thwarted Facebook Inc. CEO Mark Zuckerberg's plan to tour Glacier National Park with two climate experts last month.

Zuckerberg, who had earlier criticized the president's decision to withdraw from the Paris climate agreement, had planned a tour with park Superintendent Jeff Mow and U.S. Geological Survey ecologist Daniel Fagre.

But both were pulled from the assignment after objections from the Interior Department, which oversees the national parks.

While it's unclear who made the final decision, the emails show that many top officials discussed the matter or were informed of it, including Interior Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary Virginia Johnson and Bob Vogel, acting deputy director of operations at the National Park Service.

"This seems like a lot of government resources to dedicate to a celebrity's personal PR tour," Interior Department spokeswoman Heather Swift said to Jeremy Barnum, an NPS spokesman, in an email July 12, three days before the visit.

Zuckerberg took the tour with rangers instead.

In a July 15 Facebook posting, Zuckerberg said the impact of climate change "is very clear at Glacier," with the temperature rising at three times the global average in the high elevations of Montana.

"We need to make sure that parks like Glacier — and the planet overall — are around for future generations to enjoy," Zuckerberg said in his posting.

*The Washington Post* reported July 20 that park officials spent many days discussing how to handle Zuckerberg's visit. Swift told the paper that allocating too many resources to the visit "would have been a waste of money and a disservice to average parkgoers."

The publication *Motherboard* then filed a request under the Freedom of Information Act to gain access to more than 300 pages of emails that offered a glimpse into the internal discussions of park officials and Zuckerberg's representatives. NPS posted the [emails](#) on its website.

Lauren Alley, a management assistant at Glacier, wrote a July 12 email to Facebook Communications Director Derick Mains saying that Mow and Fagre "can no longer participate" in Zuckerberg's tour. But she said the park's deputy superintendent and "other folks" would be able to "speak to some of the natural resource challenges the park faces."

Mains replied that Zuckerberg wanted to do the tour with the superintendent.

"This is really disappointing," he wrote.

Park public affairs employees were told not to post anything about Zuckerberg's visit on social media.

After the decision was made, NPS acting Director Michael Reynolds wrote an email saying that Glacier officials had been notified of the change and that the next step would be to "manage the talking point."

In his Facebook posting, Zuckerberg said the number of glaciers at Glacier National Park has decreased from 150 to 25 since the 1850s.

"In a couple of decades, there may not be any glaciers left in the park at all," he said.

-

Heather Swift

Department of the Interior

@DOIPressSec

[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

**To:** Timothy Williams[timothy\_williams@ios.doi.gov]; Laura Rigas[laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Swift, Heather  
**Sent:** 2017-09-14T14:51:07-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** FYI -- FOIA  
**Received:** 2017-09-14T14:52:13-04:00

From: **Jayson O'Neill** <[jayson@westernvaluesproject.org](mailto:jayson@westernvaluesproject.org)>  
Date: Thu, Sep 14, 2017 at 11:41 AM  
Subject: National Monuments Announcement Update  
To: Jayson O'Neill <[jayson@westernvaluesproject.org](mailto:jayson@westernvaluesproject.org)>  
Cc: Chris Saeger <[chris@westernvaluesproject.org](mailto:chris@westernvaluesproject.org)>

Dear Reporters,

It's been widely rumored that the Trump Administration will act on Secretary of the Interior Ryan Zinke's recommendations to shrink some of the national monuments that were under review **tomorrow**.

While the document as remained a secret for over three weeks and it's still unclear which monuments are on the chopping block, two organizations are believed to be working with the administration and Secretary Zinke to provide political cover for this extremely [unpopular](#) decision. Based on that information, a Freedom of Information Act was filed for communication between the Boone and Crockett Club, National Rifle Association and the Department of the Interior by the Western Values Project (attached).

If Secretary Zinke's recommendations are acted upon, this will be the single largest elimination of protections for wildlife habitat in U.S. history resulting in a massive reduction in the quality and quantity of hunting and fishing opportunities on public lands.

It should be noted that according to the [Congressional Research Service](#), every monuments proclamation under review explicitly affirm the continued jurisdiction of the state to regulate wildlife, including hunting and fishing.

**Questions for Boone and Crockett Club and National Rifle Association:**

Are you working with the White House and Secretary Zinke on the national monuments review and reduction announcement?

Do your members support the reduction of national monument areas and the public land protections that are associated with a national monument designation?

Recreational hunting and fishing is allowed in all national monuments under review except Castle Mountains National Monument and every monument proclamation explicitly affirm the states jurisdiction to regulate wildlife. Does your organization support the federal government's attempt to supersede states wildlife management jurisdiction?

Increased energy development, mining, and logging are believed to be the bases for the reductions which would impact access for hunting and fishing, wildlife, and water quality and quantity. How does your organization's support for this announcement comport with your membership that is dominated by hunters and anglers?

Please feel free to contact us with any questions.

Sincerely,

Jayson O'Neill  
Deputy Director of the [Western Values Project](#)  
[jayson@westernvaluesproject.org](mailto:jayson@westernvaluesproject.org)  
@Western\_Values

-

Heather Swift

Department of the Interior

@DOIPressSec

[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)



**To:** Laura Rigas[laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov]; Swift, Heather[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]; Russell Newell[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov]; Paul Ross[paul\_ross@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Barbara Wainman[barbara\_wainman@fws.gov]; Matthew Huggler[matthew\_huggler@fws.gov]  
**From:** Parramore, Laury  
**Sent:** 2018-01-05T08:51:16-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** FYI: FOIA document response on SO 3355-NEPA review  
**Received:** 2018-01-05T08:51:23-05:00

Hi all,

Just a head's up that we are responding to a Wilderness Society FOIA request for a 12/11/17 memo from the USFWS director to DOI deputy secretary on the above-referenced topic, streamlining NEPA review and Environmental Assessments. The memo addresses how FWS will respond to the SO. This appears to be an exploratory FOIA that does not seem to be high visibility at this time.

Laury Marshall Parramore  
Assistant Chief, Public Affairs  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
MS: EA  
5275 Leesburg Pike  
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803  
703/358 2541 -- direct  
703/589 6947 -- mobile

On Wed, Jan 3, 2018 at 4:36 PM, Parramore, Laury <[laury\\_parramore@fws.gov](mailto:laury_parramore@fws.gov)> wrote:

Hi all,

Just a head's up that the Service will be sending out responses related to FOIA requests on the above-mentioned topics. Some of these requests are duplicative of prior FOIA requests by other stakeholder groups, and the release of documents related to these prior requests did not generate much if any incoming despite the fact that they center around high-viz topics.

Laury Marshall Parramore  
Assistant Chief, Public Affairs  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
MS: EA  
5275 Leesburg Pike  
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803  
703/358 2541 -- direct  
703/589 6947 -- mobile

**To:** Rateike, Bradley A. EOP/WHO (b) (6) ]; Love, Kelly A.  
EOP/WHO (b) (6) ]  
**Cc:** Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]; Newell, Russell[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Rigas, Laura  
**Sent:** 2017-12-28T17:32:51-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Head's Up: FOIAs on Travel  
**Received:** 2017-12-28T17:32:58-05:00

Hi -- as you know, there's ongoing requests for information about travel by politicals at DOI, including the Secretary and Dep Sec.  
FYI, tomorrow we expect a very large response to be posted to our FOIA website (it's also in response to active litigation).

The only thing "new" about this that I'm aware of is that it's the travel documents (receipts, approvals, itineraries, budget info, emails, etc.) for 40 employees. Not aware of any specific issues, just giving you an FYI.

Thanks,  
L

*Laura Keehner Rigas  
Communications Director  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 897-7022 cell  
@Interior*

**To:** Laura Rigas[laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov]; Paul Ross[paul\_ross@ios.doi.gov]; Russell Newell[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov]; Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** April Slayton[april\_slayton@nps.gov]  
**From:** Barnum, Jeremy  
**Sent:** 2017-10-04T17:20:08-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Heads up on a FOIA Request  
**Received:** 2017-10-04T17:20:50-04:00  
[17-986 LIBI Responsive REDACTED.pdf](#)  
[17-986 Ruch LIBI Zinke Pence horses INCOMING.docx](#)

DOI Colleagues,  
Flagging a FOIA request from PEER to Little Bighorn Battlefield National Monument related to the Secretary and the VP.

I'm attaching the FOIA request and the only responsive document that the FOIA office is aware of related to this request. Our understanding is that the response is with SOL for review and FOIA is looking to respond by the end of the week.

Best,

Jeremy K. Barnum  
Acting Chief of Public Affairs  
National Park Service  
Office: (202) 513-7262



[Facebook](#) [Twitter](#)  
[Instagram](#) [YouTube](#)

**To:** Paul Ross[paul\_ross@ios.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** April Slayton[april\_slayton@nps.gov]; Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]; Russell Newell[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov]; Laura Rigas[laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Barnum, Jeremy  
**Sent:** 2018-01-04T17:43:07-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Heads up on NPS FOIA response related to Made In America Outdoor Recreation Advisory Committee FOIA Request  
**Received:** 2018-01-04T17:44:11-05:00  
[18-247 McDowall Results\(part 1\) jcm.pdf](#)  
[FOIA 18-247 Austin\(part 1\) V2 jmc.pdf](#)  
[FOIA 18-247 Austin\(part 2\) V2 jmc.pdf](#)  
[FOIA 18-247 Austin\(part 3\) Redacted jcm.pdf](#)  
[18-247 ABSV Made in America FOIA from Lauren Dillon Incoming Request.pdf](#)

DOI Colleagues,

Flagging the below/attached response to a FOIA request from someone at the Democratic National Committee asking for all emails sent or received by our Deputy Director, Management and Administration and Associate Director, Business Services related to the Made In America Outdoor Recreation Advisory Committee.

There doesn't appear to be anything unusual in the responsive documents. There is some discussion of confusion around the announcement.

NPS FOIA plans to send the response tomorrow at noon.

Please let us know if you have any questions.

Thanks,

Jeremy K. Barnum  
Acting Chief of Public Affairs  
National Park Service  
Office: (202) 513-7262

----- Forwarded message -----

I wanted to give you a heads up that the following email will be sent out tomorrow around 12pm in response to a FOIA received by our office requesting documents to/from Lena or Terry which reference the NPS "Made In America" Outdoor Recreation Advisory Committee.

In addition to the intended transmittal email body below, you will find attachments of responsive records we will be releasing and a .pdf of the initial request should you wish to read it in full.

This prepared response have been reviewed by Jason Waanders.  
Should you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact me.

Jessica McHugh  
WASO FOIA Liaison  
202-354-1449  
[waso\\_foia\\_requests@nps.gov](mailto:waso_foia_requests@nps.gov)

---

Ms. Dillon,

This email is in response to your December 5, 2017, Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request (NPS-2018-00247) for all emails, including attachments, sent or received by Lena McDowall, Deputy Director, Management and Administration and/or Terry Austin, Associate Director, Business Services which reference the National Park Service's proposed "Made In America" Outdoor Recreation Advisory Committee from the period of March 1, 2017 through December 5, 2017.

Upon further review, your request is granted in part and denied in part. We are providing four files, totaling approximately 112 pages of responsive material. Portions of 6 pages, however, are being withheld under Exemption 6, which allows an agency to withhold "personnel and medical files and similar files the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy." 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(6).

The phrase "similar files" covers any agency records containing information about a particular individual that can be identified as applying to that individual. To determine whether releasing records containing information about a particular individual would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy, we are required to balance the privacy interest that would be affected by disclosure against any public interest in the information. Under the FOIA, the only relevant public interest to consider under the exemption is the extent to which the information sought would shed light on an agency's performance of its statutory duties or otherwise let citizens "know what their government is up to." The burden is on the requester to establish that disclosure would serve the public interest. When the privacy interest at stake and the public interest in disclosure have been determined, the two competing interests must be weighed against one another to determine which is the greater result of disclosure: the harm to personal privacy or the benefit to the public. The purposes for which the request for information is made do not impact this balancing test, as a release of information requested under the FOIA constitutes a release to the general public. The information that has been withheld under Exemption 6 consists of personal information containing private telephone numbers, private email addresses, and private residential locations. We have determined that the individuals to whom this information pertains have a substantial privacy interest in withholding it. Additionally, we have determined that the disclosure of this information would shed little or no light on the performance of the agency's statutory duties. Because the harm to personal privacy is greater than whatever public interest may be served by disclosure, release of the information would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of the privacy of these individuals and we are withholding it under Exemption 6.

Pursuant to regulation, 43 CFR 2.24(b) the following person is responsible for this denial:

Jessica McHugh, WASO FOIA Liaison

National Park Service

Additionally the following attorney was consulted during the preparation of this response:

Jason Waanders, Office of the Solicitor

U.S. Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C.

You have the right to appeal this denial of your request. You may file an appeal by writing to:

Freedom of Information Act Appeals Officer

Office of the Solicitor

U.S. Department of the Interior

1849 C Street, NW

MS-6556-MIB,

Washington, D.C. 20240

[foia.appeals@sol.doi.gov](mailto:foia.appeals@sol.doi.gov)

Your appeal must be received no later than 30 workdays after the date of this final response. The appeal should be marked, both on the envelope and the face of the appeal letter, with the legend "FREEDOM OF INFORMATION APPEAL." Your appeal should be accompanied by a copy of your original request and copies of all correspondence between yourself and the National Park Service related to this request, along with any information you have which leads you to believe the records are available, including where they might be found, if the location is known to you. Please note, appeals received after 5 p.m. EST will be considered to have been received as of the following day.

Also as part of the 2007 OPEN Government Act FOIA amendments, the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) was created to offer mediation services to resolve disputes between FOIA requesters and Federal agencies as a nonexclusive alternative to litigation. Using OGIS services does not affect your right to pursue litigation.

You may contact OGIS in any of the following ways:

Office of Government Information Services (OGIS)

National Archives and Records Administration  
Room 2510  
8601 Adelphi Road  
College Park, MD 20740-6001

E-mail: [ogis@nara.gov](mailto:ogis@nara.gov)

Phone:301-837-1996

Fax:301-837-0348

Toll-free:1-877-684-6448

Additionally, because the National Park Service creates and maintains law enforcement records, we are required by the Department of Justice to provide the following information, even though it may or may not apply to your specific request. Congress excluded three discrete categories of law enforcement and national security records from the requirements of the FOIA. See 5 U.S.C. 552(c) (2006 & Supp. IV 2010). This response is limited to those records that are subject to the requirements of the FOIA. This is a standard notification that we are required to give all our requesters and should not be taken as an indication that excluded records do, or do not, exist.

Should you have any further questions regarding this request, please feel free to contact me. I can be reached at the address above or by phone at 202-351-1449. I may also be reached via email at [Jessica\\_McHugh@nps.gov](mailto:Jessica_McHugh@nps.gov).

**To:** heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Rein, Lisa  
**Sent:** 2017-09-07T08:01:59-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Hi Heather, Zuckerberg story  
**Received:** 2017-09-07T08:02:33-04:00

Meant to ping you about this last night and fell asleep in front of the TV. One foia request from park service came back.. Story is based on that. Sorry I didn't give you a heads up. Lisa

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

**To:** Howarth, Robert[robert\_howarth@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Swift, Heather  
**Sent:** 2017-10-30T10:46:18-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Howdy - FOIA Request?  
**Received:** 2017-10-30T10:47:05-04:00

When you get a moment can you please send me the big foia request that I have for all my emails? I don't have a copy of it anywhere.

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)



**To:** heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Howarth, Robert  
**Sent:** 2017-08-02T11:31:47-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** I am out of the office. Re: Fwd: Leading by example: CMR Wildlife Refuge is a good neighbor in Montana  
**Received:** 2017-08-02T11:31:53-04:00

If you have a correspondence question, please contact Lisa Cannuscio at (202) 208-2443. If you have a FOIA issue, please contact Cindy Cafaro at (202) 208-5342. During this time, I will try to respond to emails.

I will be back in the office on Tuesday, August 8.

Rob

--

Robert Howarth  
Deputy Director for Correspondence and FOIA Management  
Office of the Executive Secretariat and Regulatory Affairs  
Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20240  
202-208-3181  
202-208-4451 (direct)  
202-549-8961 (cell)

**To:** heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Howarth, Robert  
**Sent:** 2017-08-30T17:01:55-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** I am out of the office. Re: template condolence letter for employees  
**Received:** 2017-08-31T07:07:32-04:00

If you have a correspondence question, please contact Lisa Cannuscio at (202) 208-2443. If you have a FOIA issue, please contact Cindy Cafaro at (202) 208-5342. During this time, I will try to respond to emails.

I will be back in the office on Tuesday September 5.

Rob

--

Robert Howarth  
Deputy Director for Correspondence and FOIA Management  
Office of the Executive Secretariat and Regulatory Affairs  
Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20240  
202-208-3181  
202-208-4451 (direct)  
202-549-8961 (cell)

**To:** heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** FOIA DMU Processing  
**Sent:** 2017-08-15T17:29:57-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** I have shared my "FOIA Glacier WVP" Label With You  
**Received:** 2017-08-15T17:30:04-04:00

Hello,

I have compiled and shared all the emails and attachments from my "FOIA Glacier WVP" label with you. You can view it here:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/0B8Sy6c3rOOgIQ0FVMzJZd0Rud0U>

Or in the "Shared with me" section of Google Drive. Move this folder to your Drive for easier access:

1. Open Google Drive
2. Click the "Shared with me" section in the left side-bar
3. Find this folder in the list
4. Drag it to the "My Drive" section
5. Organize your folders accordingly

If you need more assistance, please contact your local help desk.



\*Created with the FOIA DMU Processing Application\*

**To:** leah\_fairman@ios.doi.gov[leah\_fairman@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** FOIA DMU Processing  
**Sent:** 2017-08-15T17:29:55-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** I have shared my "FOIA Glacier WVP" Label With You  
**Received:** 2017-08-15T17:30:02-04:00

Hello,

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5. Organize your folders accordingly

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\*Created with the FOIA DMU Processing Application\*

**To:** heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** FOIA DMU Processing  
**Sent:** 2017-08-14T19:08:08-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** I have shared my "FOIA Glacier Zuckerberg" Label With You  
**Received:** 2017-08-14T19:08:15-04:00

Hello,

I have compiled and shared all the emails and attachments from my "FOIA Glacier Zuckerberg" label with you. You can view it here:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/0B8Sy6c3rOOgIV1BadUE4ODhsMTA>

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3. Find this folder in the list
4. Drag it to the "My Drive" section
5. Organize your folders accordingly

If you need more assistance, please contact your local help desk.



\*Created with the FOIA DMU Processing Application\*

**To:** osfoia@ios.doi.gov[osfoia@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** FOIA DMU Processing  
**Sent:** 2017-08-14T19:08:06-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** I have shared my "FOIA Glacier Zuckerberg" Label With You  
**Received:** 2017-08-14T19:08:14-04:00

Hello,

I have compiled and shared all the emails and attachments from my "FOIA Glacier Zuckerberg" label with you. You can view it here:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/0B8Sy6c3rOOgIV1BadUE4ODhsMTA>

Or in the "Shared with me" section of Google Drive. Move this folder to your Drive for easier access:

1. Open Google Drive
2. Click the "Shared with me" section in the left side-bar
3. Find this folder in the list
4. Drag it to the "My Drive" section
5. Organize your folders accordingly

If you need more assistance, please contact your local help desk.



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**To:** heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** FOIA DMU Processing  
**Sent:** 2017-08-14T19:57:23-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** I have shared my "FOIA June 12 BENM Call" Label With You  
**Received:** 2017-08-14T19:57:30-04:00

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**To:** osfoia@ios.doi.gov[osfoia@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** FOIA DMU Processing  
**Sent:** 2017-08-14T19:57:21-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** I have shared my "FOIA June 12 BENM Call" Label With You  
**Received:** 2017-08-14T19:57:28-04:00

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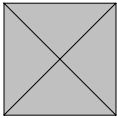
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**From:** Newell, Russell  
**Sent:** 2017-12-11T09:37:59-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** ICYMI - Interior no. 2 details his intention and rationale for reassigning more senior executives  
**Received:** 2017-12-11T09:38:05-05:00

<https://federalnewsradio.com/ses/2017/12/interior-no-2-shares-more-insight-into-agencys-decision-to-reassign-its-senior-executives/>

Interior no. 2 details his intention and rationale for reassigning more senior executives



By [Nicole Ogrysko @nogryskoWFED](#)  
December 8, 2017 5:24 pm

4 min read

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More than six months after the Interior Department [reassigned 30-to-50](#) of its senior executives, the agency's deputy secretary is offering more insight into the role he foresees for DOI's most experienced career leaders.

In a Dec. 4 memo to all Interior senior executives, Deputy Secretary David Bernhardt detailed his vision for the agency's Senior Executive Service members.

"As I have examined our processes, consulted with the Office of Personnel Management and requested that the secretary reconstitute the membership of the [Executive Resources Board] to adopt best practices, I thought it would useful to share my understanding of the role the Senior Executive Service plays in leading the department," he wrote.

Though the memo, which Federal News Radio obtained, didn't explicitly announce plans to reassign more senior executives, it's clear Bernhardt sees these rotations as a potentially valuable management tool.

"It is my view that potentially greater cross-bureau collaboration and innovation can be achieved by bringing new leadership perspectives to our operations by rotating SES members from bureaus to headquarters, from headquarters to the field and across different functional areas and disciplines," Bernhardt wrote. "Going forward, I will seek to strike a balance between leadership continuity and achieving fresh perspective by reassigning SES employees across bureaus and offices."

Interior senior executives who were moved to new positions in June said the reassignments [created a "chilling effect"](#) in the department, and they said they feared how the agency's reorganization effort would impact the workforce when the department's executive cadre has had "absolutely no involvement whatsoever" in crafting the agency's plans.

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Bernhardt's latest memo shows Interior is trying to be more proactive and communicative with its career senior executives, said Bill Valdez, president of the Senior Executives Association.

Though it may have been wise for Interior to send such a message to its SES members six months ago, having leadership alert the agency's senior executives about its intentions is a good management practice, he said.

"This letter is perhaps an indication that they're taking a step back and being more thoughtful about what they're doing," Valdez said.

Bernhardt's memo also reminds senior executives of the principles that guide the SES under the Civil Service Reform Act of 1978. Those principles, Bernhardt said, will inform his decisions as chair of the department's Executive Resources Board.

Each agency typically appoints members to serve on an Executive Resources Board (ERB), which reviews qualifications for new career applications to the SES. According to [OPM](#), these boards also advise agency heads on executive human resource management. These boards usually dissolve during a change in administration and staff back up when new leadership arrives.

Bernhardt also reminded executives of former President Barack Obama's 2015 [executive order](#), which directed agencies with more than 20 or more SES positions to rotate at least 15 percent of its members to different departments, agencies, subcomponents, functional areas or even sectors.

According to Bernhardt, Interior senior executives during the Obama administration completed 140 SES reassignments within the department. Of the executives who did rotate to other positions, few moved to different bureaus in the department, he added.

## Latest SES News

**[For newest class of distinguished executives, focus is on inspiring next generation of leaders](#)**[SES](#)

**[House paves way for 2-year probationary periods for federal employees](#)**[Your Job](#)

**[Former Interior senior executive sues agency for reassignment records](#)**[SES](#)

"From my perspective, the lack of mobility can contribute to a siloed, bureau-centric approach to management," Bernhardt wrote. "Although a long length of service in one position can be a management strength, as it allows for the development of technical expertise and continuity, it can also inhibit the transfer of fresh management concepts across bureaus and offices."

Bernhardt said he also plans to focus more on strengthening executive accountability. About 98 percent of Interior SES members received an "outstanding" or "exceeds fully successful" rating on their performance evaluation for 2016, the memo said.

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“Each of you should be proud of your membership in the SES and your accomplishments as executives,” Bernhardt wrote. “I look forward to working with each of you. Thank you for your service.”

Bernhardt’s memo comes as the department’s Office of Inspector General is continuing its review of the methodology and the criteria agency leaders used to reassign SES members.

According to an email to Interior senior executives, which Federal News Radio obtained, the [IG said](#) it was meeting with impacted SES and others involved in the reassignment process. The IG also encouraged senior executives who haven’t come forward to contact the inspector general or its anonymous hotline by Nov. 10.

Meanwhile, former Interior senior executive Joel Clement, who said he was reassigned in retaliation for his statements about climate change, has [filed a lawsuit](#) against the department. Interior had yet to comply with any of Clement’s more than 30 Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests related to the agency’s decision to reassign some of its career executives.

Clement [resigned](#) in October, citing poor leadership as one of the reasons for his departure.

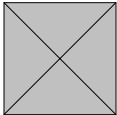
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**To:** Laura Rigas[laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov]; Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]  
**From:** Newell, Russell  
**Sent:** 2017-12-11T09:34:43-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** ICYMI - Interior no. 2 details his intention and rationale for reassigning more senior executives  
**Received:** 2017-12-11T09:34:51-05:00

would like to send around - this am to the team -

<https://federalnewsradio.com/ses/2017/12/interior-no-2-shares-more-insight-into-agencys-decision-to-reassign-its-senior-executives/>

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