

From: [Regional Director's Office](#)
To: [greg_siekan.ec@fws.gov](#); [karen_clark@fws.gov](#); [kmourits@blm.gov](#)
Subject: Invitation: Fo low up Discussion - with Karen on Proposed Senate Legl... @ Tue Nov 28 2017 1:30pm - 2:30pm (kmourits@blm.gov)
Attachments: [/0/0e/ics](#)

more details » -<https://www.google.com/calendar/e-ent?action=VIEW&ed=N2NpaXQ5YUJmZmMhZmRkZWF2YTh2Uga21_dXpjdINAyMxLmd_dg&st=1&ok=NjA3ZG9pLmd_d80WdadH2b2FzGfzN2b_dWk3dW1hM3Zs6Bmcn91c5JYwXbmRkci5h29hGUyY29hNWFnOTI2MzEwOTAxNGYxODVhYkYkZkNGQ3ZDEZmUsNDVNDkNjNmMw&ctr=America/Anchorage&hl=en>

Follow up Discussion - with Karen on Proposed Senate Legislation on Opening Coastal Plain (Karen Please call 786-35 2 for Transfer)
When: Tue Nov 28 2017 1:30pm - 2:30pm Alaska Time

Video call https://plus.google.com/hangouts/_/doi-go - ugntr6<https://plus.google.com/hangouts/_/doi-go - ugntr6?icid=ZG9pLmd_d80WdadH2b2FzGfzN2b_dWk3dW1hM3Zs6Bmcn91c5JYwXbmRkci5h29hGUyY29hNWFnOTI2MzEwOTAxNGYxODVhYkYkZkNGQ3ZDEZmUsNDVNDkNjNmMw&ctr=America/Anchorage&hl=en>

Calendar [kmourits@blm.gov](#)
Who • [tialdie_da](#) [iigjfwx](#) [erica](#) or

- [greg_siekanec@fws.gov](#)
- [karen_clark@fws.gov](#)
- [kmourits@blm.gov](#)

Going? Yes -<https://www.google.com/calendar/e-ent?action=RESPOND&e=N2NpaXQ5YUJmZmMhZmRkZWF2YTh2Uga21_dXpjdINAyMxLmd_dg&st=1&ok=NjA3ZG9pLmd_d80WdadH2b2FzGfzN2b_dWk3dW1hM3Zs6Bmcn91c5JYwXbmRkci5h29hGUyY29hNWFnOTI2MzEwOTAxNGYxODVhYkYkZkNGQ3ZDEZmUsNDVNDkNjNmMw&ctr=America/Anchorage&hl=en>

Maybe -<https://www.google.com/calendar/e-ent?action=RESPOND&e=N2NpaXQ5YUJmZmMhZmRkZWF2YTh2Uga21_dXpjdINAyMxLmd_dg&st=2&ok=NjA3ZG9pLmd_d80WdadH2b2FzGfzN2b_dWk3dW1hM3Zs6Bmcn91c5JYwXbmRkci5h29hGUyY29hNWFnOTI2MzEwOTAxNGYxODVhYkYkZkNGQ3ZDEZmUsNDVNDkNjNmMw&ctr=America/Anchorage&hl=en>

No -<https://www.google.com/calendar/e-ent?action=RESPOND&e=N2NpaXQ5YUJmZmMhZmRkZWF2YTh2Uga21_dXpjdINAyMxLmd_dg&st=3&ok=NjA3ZG9pLmd_d80WdadH2b2FzGfzN2b_dWk3dW1hM3Zs6Bmcn91c5JYwXbmRkci5h29hGUyY29hNWFnOTI2MzEwOTAxNGYxODVhYkYkZkNGQ3ZDEZmUsNDVNDkNjNmMw&ctr=America/Anchorage&hl=en>

more options » -<https://www.google.com/calendar/e-ent?action=VIEW&ed=N2NpaXQ5YUJmZmMhZmRkZWF2YTh2Uga21_dXpjdINAyMxLmd_dg&st=1&ok=NjA3ZG9pLmd_d80WdadH2b2FzGfzN2b_dWk3dW1hM3Zs6Bmcn91c5JYwXbmRkci5h29hGUyY29hNWFnOTI2MzEwOTAxNGYxODVhYkYkZkNGQ3ZDEZmUsNDVNDkNjNmMw&ctr=America/Anchorage&hl=en>

Invitation from Google Calendar -<<https://www.google.com/calendar/>>
You are receiving this email at kmourits@blm.gov because you are subscribed for invitations on calendar kmourits@blm.gov.
To stop receiving these emails please log in to <https://www.google.com/calendar/> and change your notification settings for this calendar.
Forwarding this invitation could allow any recipient to modify your RSVP response. Learn More -<<https://support.google.com/calendar/answer/37135#forwarding>>.

From: [Regional Director's Office](#)
To: greg_s_eckane@fws.gov; karen_clark@fws.gov; kmouri@blm.gov
Subject: Invitation: Follow up Discussion - with Karen on Proposed Senate Legl... @ Tue Nov 28 2017 1:30pm - 2:30pm (greg_siekane@fws.gov)
Attachments: [fwsfs.cs](#)

more details > <https://www.google.com/calendar/e-ent?act=RESPON&eid=N2NpaQ5YalU3NzZmMhnaXRZWF2YTh82UgZ3JZ19zaWVYVW5pZWNAZndzLmd_dg&rst=1&tok=NjA5ZG9pLmd_d80dWdadH22FozGfS2h dWk3dW1hM3Zab0Bccm91c5YVWabmRhcisfb29hGUy29ZjA1MTc0MjhiYjBmNmM OTQ5N2Q5YjM2MDRlZlVlZjY3ZGNmY2JlMgkzr-American/Anchorage&hl=en>

Follow up Discussion - with Karen on Proposed Senate Legislation on Opening Coastal Plain (Karen Please call 786-35 2 for Transfer)
When Tue Nov 28 2017 1:30pm - 2:30pm Alaska Time

Video call https://plus.google.com/hangouts/_doi.go/_doi-go - ugnm76ceid-ZG9pLmd_d80dWdadH22FozGfS2h dWk3dW1hM3Zab0Bccm91c5YVWabmRhcisfb29hGUy29ZjA1MTc0MjhiYjBmNmM OTQ5N2Q5YjM2MDRlZlVlZjY3ZGNmY2JlMgkzr-American/Anchorage&hl=en>
Calendar [greg_siekane@fws.gov](https://www.google.com/calendar/e-ent?act=RESPON&eid=N2NpaQ5YalU3NzZmMhnaXRZWF2YTh82UgZ3JZ19zaWVYVW5pZWNAZndzLmd_dg&rst=1&tok=NjA5ZG9pLmd_d80dWdadH22FozGfS2h dWk3dW1hM3Zab0Bccm91c5YVWabmRhcisfb29hGUy29ZjA1MTc0MjhiYjBmNmM OTQ5N2Q5YjM2MDRlZlVlZjY3ZGNmY2JlMgkzr-American/Anchorage&hl=en)

Who > greg_siekane@fws.gov
> karen_clark@fws.gov
> kmouri@blm.gov

Going? Yes > https://www.google.com/calendar/e-ent?act=RESPON&eid=N2NpaQ5YalU3NzZmMhnaXRZWF2YTh82UgZ3JZ19zaWVYVW5pZWNAZndzLmd_dg&rst=1&tok=NjA5ZG9pLmd_d80dWdadH22FozGfS2h dWk3dW1hM3Zab0Bccm91c5YVWabmRhcisfb29hGUy29ZjA1MTc0MjhiYjBmNmM OTQ5N2Q5YjM2MDRlZlVlZjY3ZGNmY2JlMgkzr-American/Anchorage&hl=en
- Maybe > https://www.google.com/calendar/e-ent?act=RESPON&eid=N2NpaQ5YalU3NzZmMhnaXRZWF2YTh82UgZ3JZ19zaWVYVW5pZWNAZndzLmd_dg&rst=2&tok=NjA5ZG9pLmd_d80dWdadH22FozGfS2h dWk3dW1hM3Zab0Bccm91c5YVWabmRhcisfb29hGUy29ZjA1MTc0MjhiYjBmNmM OTQ5N2Q5YjM2MDRlZlVlZjY3ZGNmY2JlMgkzr-American/Anchorage&hl=en

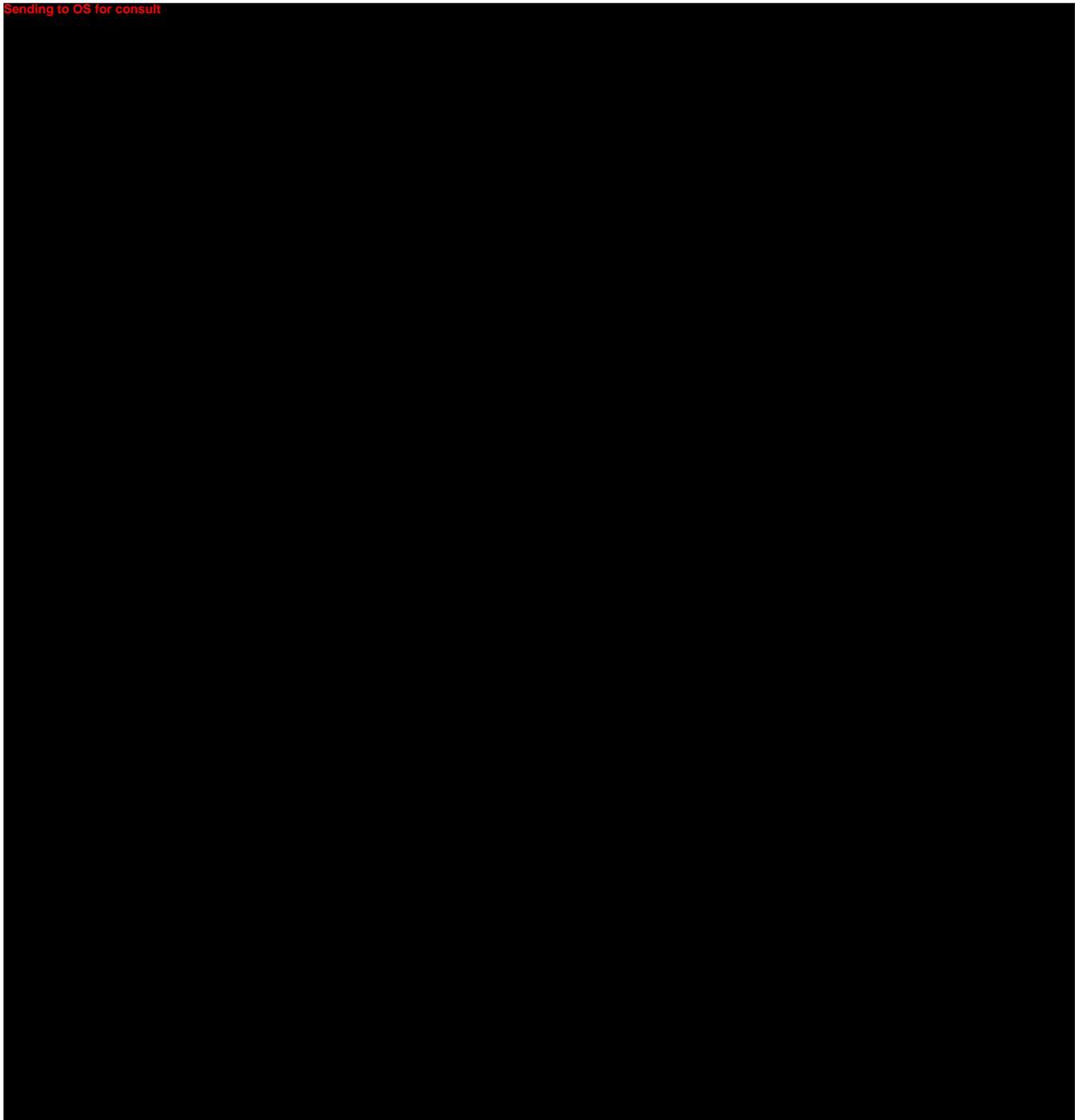
- No > https://www.google.com/calendar/e-ent?act=RESPON&eid=N2NpaQ5YalU3NzZmMhnaXRZWF2YTh82UgZ3JZ19zaWVYVW5pZWNAZndzLmd_dg&rst=3&tok=NjA5ZG9pLmd_d80dWdadH22FozGfS2h dWk3dW1hM3Zab0Bccm91c5YVWabmRhcisfb29hGUy29ZjA1MTc0MjhiYjBmNmM OTQ5N2Q5YjM2MDRlZlVlZjY3ZGNmY2JlMgkzr-American/Anchorage&hl=en
more options > <https://www.google.com/calendar/e-ent?act=RESPON&eid=N2NpaQ5YalU3NzZmMhnaXRZWF2YTh82UgZ3JZ19zaWVYVW5pZWNAZndzLmd_dg&rst=4&tok=NjA5ZG9pLmd_d80dWdadH22FozGfS2h dWk3dW1hM3Zab0Bccm91c5YVWabmRhcisfb29hGUy29ZjA1MTc0MjhiYjBmNmM OTQ5N2Q5YjM2MDRlZlVlZjY3ZGNmY2JlMgkzr-American/Anchorage&hl=en>

In 1 atom from Google Calendar > https://www.google.com/calendar/e-ent?act=RESPON&eid=N2NpaQ5YalU3NzZmMhnaXRZWF2YTh82UgZ3JZ19zaWVYVW5pZWNAZndzLmd_dg&rst=5&tok=NjA5ZG9pLmd_d80dWdadH22FozGfS2h dWk3dW1hM3Zab0Bccm91c5YVWabmRhcisfb29hGUy29ZjA1MTc0MjhiYjBmNmM OTQ5N2Q5YjM2MDRlZlVlZjY3ZGNmY2JlMgkzr-American/Anchorage&hl=en
You are recei ing this email at the account greg_siekane@fws.gov because you are subscribed for a at on calendar greg_siekane@fws.gov.

To stop recei ng these emails please log in to <https://www.google.com/calendar> and change your notification settings for this calendar.
Forwarding this in its on could allow any recipient to modify your RSVP response. Learn More > <https://support.google.com/calendar/answer/37135#forwarding>.

To: Boario, Sara[sara_boario@fws.gov]
Cc: Gavin Shire[gavin_shire@fws.gov]; Faith Vander Voort[faith_vandervoort@ios.doi.gov]; Heather Swift[heather_swift@ios.doi.gov]; Russell Newell[russell_newell@ios.doi.gov]; john_bockmier@ios.doi.gov[john_bockmier@ios.doi.gov]; ctollefson@blm.gov[ctollefson@blm.gov]; Schroeder, Darin[darin_schroeder@fws.gov]; Gregory Siekaniec[greg_siekaniec@fws.gov]; joseph_balash@ios.doi.gov[joseph_balash@ios.doi.gov]; joshua.kindred@sol.doi.gov[joshua.kindred@sol.doi.gov]
From: Stephen Wackowski
Sent: 2018-12-07T15:02:33-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] questions for story
Received: 2018-12-07T15:02:42-05:00

Sending to OS for consult

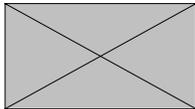


Sending to OS for consult

-

Heather Swift
Senior Advisor to the Secretary
U.S. Department of the Interior
[@DOIPressSec](#) | [@SecretaryZinke](#) | [@Interior](#)
Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov | Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov

*NOTE: Every email I send or receive is subject to release under the
Freedom of Information Act.*



On Fri, Dec 7, 2018 at 11:51 AM Shire, Gavin <gavin_shire@fws.gov> wrote:

Advice on how you want us to handle this, please. Obviously,
this is a sensitive and potentially high profile issue. Want to
make sure we are coordinated.

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

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

From: **Boario, Sara** <sara_boario@fws.gov>
Date: Fri, Dec 7, 2018 at 11:33 AM
Subject: Fwd: [EXTERNAL] questions for story
To: Gavin Shire <gavin_shire@fws.gov>
Cc: Barbara Wainman <barbara_wainman@fws.gov>

fyi - we just found out about this too. G - I'll you when I'm in.

thx

sb

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

From: **Greg Siekaniec** <greg_siekaniec@fws.gov>
Date: Thu, Dec 6, 2018 at 9:46 PM
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] questions for story
To: Stephen Wackowski <stephen_wackowski@ios.doi.gov>
Cc: Sara Boario <sara_boario@fws.gov>

Sara,
Please ensure Steve is linked with Gavin and Barbara regarding press inquiries on
ITR and EA inquiries.

Thank you,

Greg

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 6, 2018, at 8:52 PM, Stephen Wackowski
<stephen_wackowski@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

FYI. Please let me know when you get pinged on
press requests with regards to this topic.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Heather Swift
<heather_swift@ios.doi.gov>
Date: December 6, 2018 at 2:37:16 PM PST
To: stephen_wackowski@ios.doi.gov
Subject: Fwd: [EXTERNAL] questions for story

Heather Swift

US Department of the Interior

Begin forwarded message:

From: Adam Federman

<(b) (6)>
[REDACTED]

Date: December 6, 2018 at 5:21:15 PM EST

To: Heather Swift <heather_swift@ios.doi.gov>, Faith Vander
Voort
<faith_vandervoort@ios.doi.gov>

Cc: Interior Press <Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] questions for story

To Whom It May Concern:

I'm a reporting fellow with the Investigative Fund at the Nation Institute and intend to publish a story in *Mother Jones* based on a four-page FWS memo raising concerns about the impacts of seismic surveys on critically threatened polar bear populations in the Southern Beaufort Sea. The Information Memorandum for the Director, drafted by Gregory Siekaniec, is dated September 6 and seems to contradict DOI's earlier assertions that an environmental assessment can be issued with a draft finding of no significant impact.

If you could please respond on the record to the following questions by 1 pm tomorrow (Friday) that

would be greatly appreciated. Thank you for your time.

1. On at least two occasions BLM has publicly stated that DOI will issue an environmental assessment with a finding of no significant impact in order to allow seismic surveys of the coastal plain to move forward, possibly as early as this winter. But the September 6 FWS memo appears to contradict this assertion. How has BLM reached the conclusion that seismic surveys will have no significant impact on the coastal plain, and in particular on the threatened polar bear population?

2. The FWS memo concludes that even with mitigation measures in place impacts on the threatened polar bear population would likely be greater than what is permitted under the Marine Mammal Protection Act. Does BLM dispute this conclusion?

3. What sort of stipulations if any are being considered in the event that an incidental take permit is authorized? Is BLM confident that seismic surveys on the coastal plain will not result in Level A harassment of polar bears?

4. According to the memo BLM had intended to release an Environmental Assessment with a finding of no significant impact as early as September 10. Does BLM dispute this?

5. Did the FWS memo delay BLM's publication of the Environmental Assessment?

6. When will BLM be issuing the Environmental Assessment?

7. Does the Department expect that seismic surveys will begin this winter?

(802) 503 9894
Reporting Fellow, Investigative
Fund at the Nation Institute
Author of *Fasting and Feasting:*
The Life of Visionary Food Writer
Patience Gray

--

Sara D. Boario
Assistant Regional Director External Affairs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Alaska Region
Anchorage, Alaska
907 786 3431

--

Faith C. Vander Voort
Deputy Press Secretary
Department of the Interior

--

Sara D. Boario
Assistant Regional Director External Affairs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Alaska Region
Anchorage, Alaska
907 786 3431

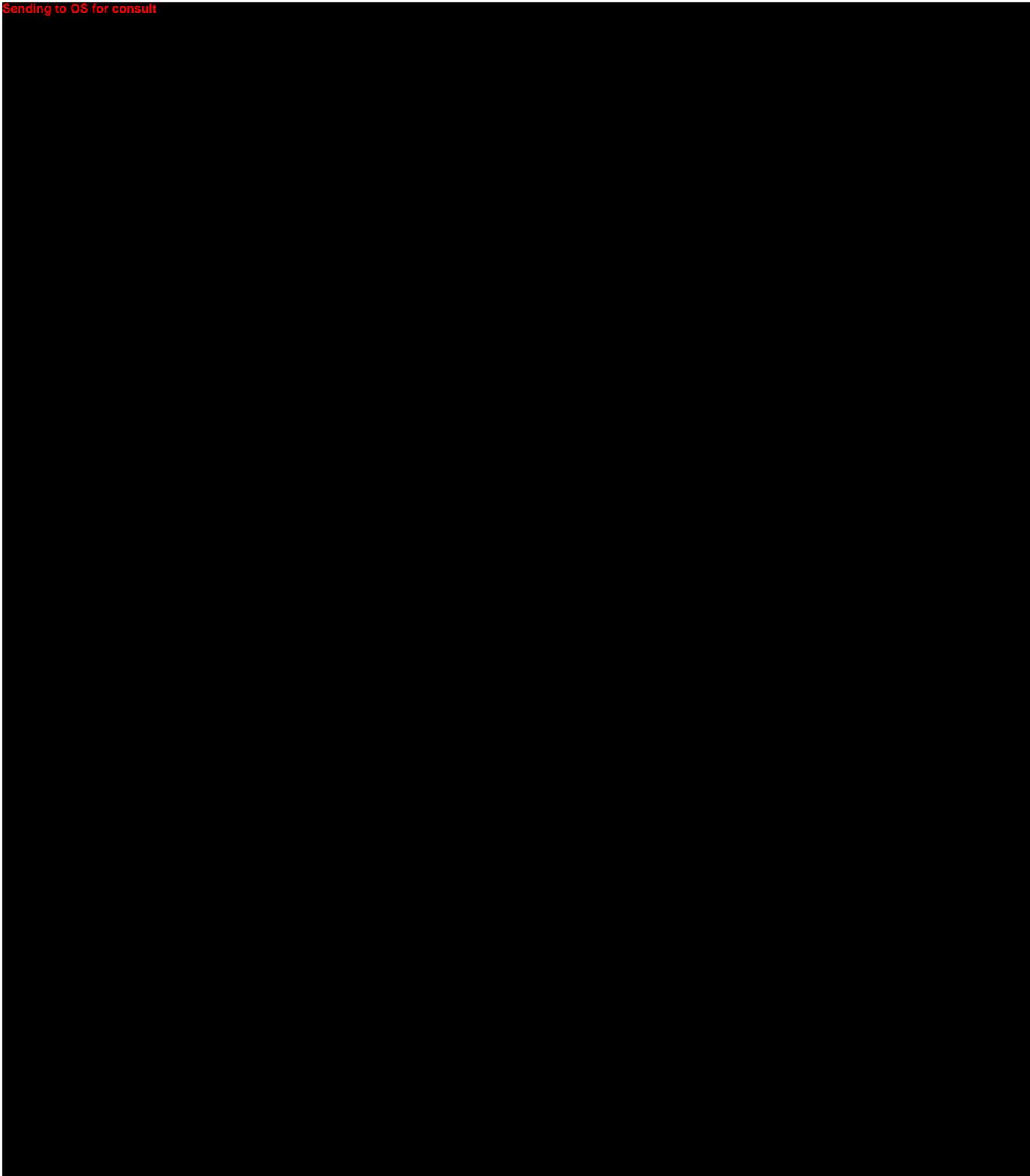
<Facebook_Logo for Email Signature Block.png> <twitter icon Signature Block.jpg>

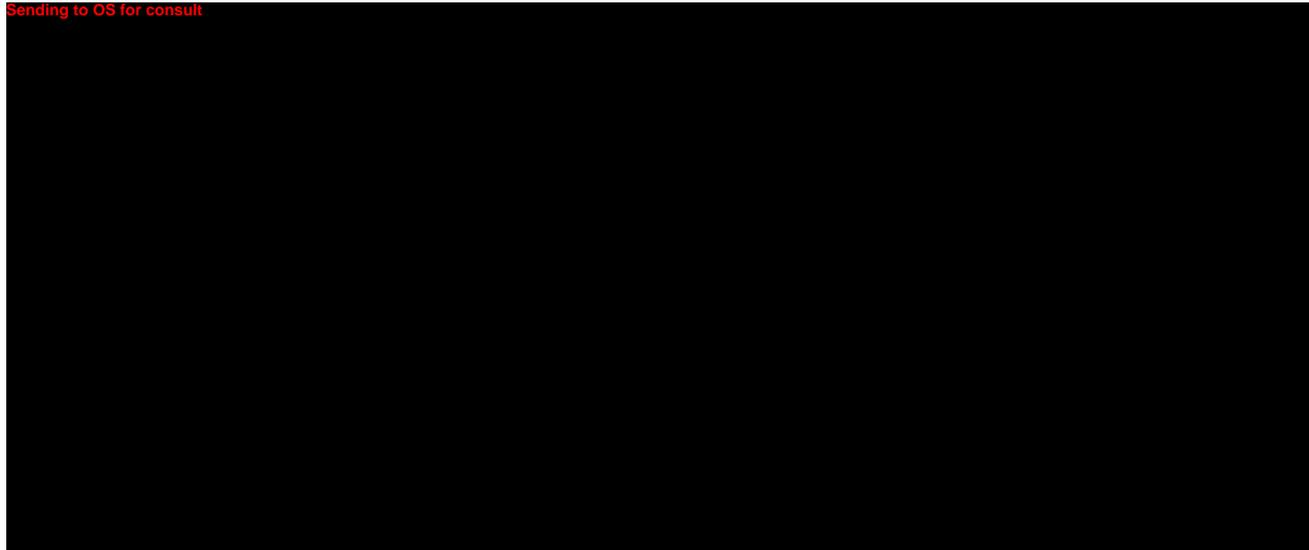
<Facebook_Logo for Email Signature Block.png>

<twitter-icon Signature Block.jpg>

To: Wackowski, Stephen[stephen_wackowski@ios.doi.gov];
joshua.kindred@sol.doi.gov[joshua.kindred@sol.doi.gov]
Cc: Gregory Siekaniec[greg_siekaniec@fws.gov]; Gavin Shire[gavin_shire@fws.gov]; Faith
Vander Voort[faith_vandervoort@ios.doi.gov]; Heather Swift[heather_swift@ios.doi.gov]
From: Boario, Sara
Sent: 2018-12-07T15:21:48-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] questions for story
Received: 2018-12-07T15:22:08-05:00

Sending to OS for consult





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

--

Sara D. Boario
Assistant Regional Director External Affairs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Alaska Region
Anchorage, Alaska
907 786 3431



--

Sara D. Boario
Assistant Regional Director External Affairs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Alaska Region
Anchorage, Alaska
907 786 3431



--

Sara D. Boario
Assistant Regional Director External Affairs

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Alaska Region
Anchorage, Alaska
907 786 3431



To: Gregory Siekaniec[greg_siekaniec@fws.gov]; Karen Clark[karen_clark@fws.gov]
From: Boario, Sara
Sent: 2018-12-07T15:30:17-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] request for copy of application
Received: 2018-12-07T15:30:38-05:00
[twitter-icon Signature Block.jpg](#)
[Facebook Logo for Email Signature Block.png](#)

fyi

On Fri, Dec 7, 2018 at 11:26 AM Lemons, Patrick <patrick_lemons@fws.gov> wrote:

Hi Sara,
Below are the emails Christopher has exchanged with Federman. Let me know if you have any questions.

Patrick

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

From: Putnam, Christopher <christopher_putnam@fws.gov>
Date: Fri, Dec 7, 2018 at 10:40 AM
Subject: Fwd: [EXTERNAL] request for copy of application
To: Lemons, Patrick <patrick_lemons@fws.gov>

Patrick,

Here are all the emails back and forth with the reporter Adam Federman. They are all in one email chain except for the one you already have.

Christopher Putnam
Supervisory Fish and Wildlife Biologist
Marine Mammals Management
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
1011 East Tudor Rd, MS 341
Anchorage, AK 99503-6199
907-786-3844 office
907-268-0577 mobile
907-786-3816 fax

"All that is gold does not glitter, not all those who wander are lost; the old that is strong does not wither, deep roots are not reached by the frost."

-- J.R.R. Tolkien

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

From: Adam Federman <(b) (6)>

0000012801

Date: Fri, Nov 30, 2018 at 9:42 AM
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] request for copy of application
To: Putnam, Christopher <christopher_putnam@fws.gov>

Thanks, Chris. Are you able to provide any additional information about the project scenario?
Adam

(802) 503 9894
Reporting Fellow, Investigative Fund at the Nation Institute
Author of *Fasting and Feasting: The Life of Visionary Food Writer Patience Gray*

On 29 Nov 2018, at 15:45, Putnam, Christopher
<christopher_putnam@fws.gov> wrote:

Hello Mr. Federman,
We have identified a project scenario that will allow us to make the required determinations under the MMPA. We are waiting on some information from the applicant while we work to draft a proposed ITR. We don't have a specific date when the proposed ITR would publish in the Federal Register. In order to have the process completed in time for the project to proceed we would need to publish the proposed ITR before the end of December.

Christopher Putnam
Supervisory Fish and Wildlife Biologist
Marine Mammals Management
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
1011 East Tudor Rd, MS 341
Anchorage, AK 99503-6199
907-786-3844 office
907-268-0577 mobile
907-786-3816 fax

"All that is gold does not glitter, not all those who wander are lost; the old that is strong
does not wither, deep roots are not reached by the frost."

-- J.R.R. Tolkien

On Thu, Nov 29, 2018 at 11:13 AM Adam Federman <(b) (6)>

wrote:

Hi Chris, any sense of when the ITR might be published?
Adam

(802) 503 9894
Reporting Fellow, Investigative Fund at the Nation Institute
Author of *Fasting and Feasting: The Life of Visionary Food Writer Patience Gray*

On 14 Nov 2018, at 16:22, Putnam, Christopher
<christopher_putnam@fws.gov> wrote:

Hello Mr. Federman,
We don't have any updates at this time. We're still working through our process
with the applicant and no decisions have been made.

Christopher Putnam
Supervisory Fish and Wildlife Biologist
Marine Mammals Management
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
1011 East Tudor Rd, MS 341
Anchorage, AK 99503-6199
907-786-3844 office
907-268-0577 mobile
907-786-3816 fax

"All that is gold does not glitter, not all those who wander are lost; the old that is
strong does not wither, deep roots are not reached by the frost."
-- J.R.R. Tolkien

On Tue, Nov 13, 2018 at 6:19 AM Adam Federman <(b) (6)>

wrote:

Hi Chris, just checking in. Any updates on the incidental take authorisation?

Adam

(802) 503 9894
Reporting Fellow, Investigative Fund at the Nation Institute
Author of *Fasting and Feasting: The Life of Visionary Food Writer Patience Gray*

On 17 Oct 2018, at 17:55, Putnam, Christopher
<christopher_putnam@fws.gov> wrote:

No, not yet.

Christopher Putnam
Supervisory Fish and Wildlife Biologist
Marine Mammals Management
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
1011 East Tudor Rd, MS 341
Anchorage, AK 99503-6199
907-786-3844 office
907-268-0577 mobile
907-786-3816 fax

"All that is gold does not glitter, not all those who wander are lost; the old
that is strong does not wither, deep roots are not
reached by the frost."

-- J.R.R. Tolkien

On Wed, Oct 17, 2018 at 7:10 AM Adam Federman

<(b) (6)> wrote:

Ok, thank you. Do you know yet when the proposed authorisation will be published?

Adam

(802) 503 9894
Reporting Fellow, Investigative Fund at the Nation Institute
Author of *Fasting and Feasting: The Life of Visionary Food*
Writer Patience Gray

On 16 Oct 2018, at 19:34, Putnam,
Christopher
<christopher_putnam@fws.gov> wrote:

Mr. Federman,

I checked into our ability to release the SAE seismic survey application prior to publishing a proposed authorization in the Federal Register. Unfortunately, the guidance is that we won't release the application until the FR publication. When we publish a proposed authorization in the FR and ask for public comments, the application and the other supporting information will be public.

Christopher Putnam
Supervisory Fish and Wildlife Biologist
Marine Mammals Management
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
1011 East Tudor Rd, MS 341
Anchorage, AK 99503-6199
907-786-3844 office
907-268-0577 mobile
907-786-3816 fax

"All that is gold does not glitter, not all those who wander are lost; the
old that is strong does not wither, deep
roots are not reached by the frost."

-- J.R.R. Tolkien

On Fri, Oct 12, 2018 at 10:32 AM Adam Federman

<(b) (6)> wrote:

Ok, makes sense. Thanks again. And if you are able to provide a copy of the incidental take application that would be most appreciated.

Adam

(802) 503 9894
Reporting Fellow, Investigative Fund at the
Nation Institute
Author of *Fasting and Feasting: The Life of
Visionary Food Writer Patience Gray*

On 12 Oct 2018, at 14:02,
Putnam, Christopher
<[christopher_putnam@fws](mailto:christopher_putnam@fws.gov)
[.gov](mailto:christopher_putnam@fws.gov)> wrote:

Mr. Federman,

What I described in my previous email about the timeline for the ITR was the internal planning schedule. Since the MMPA states that we "shall" issue the incidental take authorization provided that we make the required determinations, we plan for the process to allow for all the steps necessary to finalize and issue the authorization. However, there is no preconceived or foregone conclusion when

we review an application and conduct our analysis for the required determinations. Any application we receive could be denied if we are not able to make the required determinations. Each application we receive has unique aspects, but our process is basically the same for them all.

Christopher Putnam
Supervisory Fish and Wildlife Biologist
Marine Mammals Management
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
1011 East Tudor Rd, MS 341
Anchorage, AK 99503-6199
907-786-3844 office
907-268-0577 mobile
907-786-3816 fax

"All that is gold does not glitter, not all those who wander are lost; the old that is strong does not wither, deep roots are not reached by the frost."

-- J.R.R. Tolkien

On Fri, Oct 12, 2018 at 9:41 AM Adam Federman

(b) (6)

wrote:

Chris, thanks again. One small question: isn't it possible that the application for incidental take could be denied if it doesn't meet the standard of having negligible impact? From what you wrote, that a letter of authorisation would be

issued simultaneously, it sounds like a foregone conclusion. Just wanted to be sure I understand how this all works.
Best,

Adam

(802) 503 9894
Reporting Fellow, Investigative
Fund at the Nation Institute
Author of *Fasting and Feasting:
The Life of Visionary Food*
Writer Patience Gray

On 11 Oct
2018, at
17:22,
Putnam,
Christopher
<christopher
putnam@fws.
gov> wrote:

Mr. Federman,
The timeline for this ITR is just an internal planning
schedule. It
isn't
published
anywhere,
and as I
mentioned,
timelines
often change.
In this case
we received a

preliminary
plan of
operations
from SAE on
May 3, 2018.
That is the
same plan
that is
published on
the BLM
website for
this project.
We received
the
application
for an MMPA
incidental
take
regulation on
June 6, 2018.
The
application
indicated that
SAE wanted
to start work
this winter.
We
established
the initial
timeline
based on
when we
received the
application,
when they
wanted to
begin work,
and how
much time we
thought we
needed to
complete the
process. That
timeline has
us publishing
the proposed

ITR in the Federal Register by October 12, 2018. So, that isn't going to happen on schedule. A 30 day public comment period was scheduled to end by November 10, 2018. We allowed time to incorporate public comments into the final ITR and submit the document through reviews to the Federal Register. The final ITR is scheduled to publish in the Federal Register by January 2, 2019. We intend to ask for immediate promulgation of the ITR upon publication, and to simultaneously issue a letter of authorization

to SAE for
their project.
As I
mentioned
before, I'm
not sure how
the overall
timeline will
be affected by
our current
delay.

Christopher Putnam
Supervisory Fish and Wildlife Biologist
Marine Mammals Management
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
1011 East Tudor Rd, MS 341
Anchorage, AK 99503-6199
907-786-3844 office
907-268-0577 mobile
907-786-3816 fax

"All that is gold does not glitter, not all those who wander
are lost; the
old that is
strong does
not wither,
deep roots are
not reached
by the frost."

-- J.R.R. Tolkien

On Thu, Oct 11, 2018 at 12:24 PM Adam Federman

(b) (6)
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] wrote:

Yes, that
would be
great to have
a copy of the
application.
Thank you.
Also is there

a place
where the
seven month
timeline you
refer to is
outlined?

O
n
1
1
O
c
t
2
0
1
8
,
a
t
1
5
:
3
8
,
P
u
t
n
a
m
,
C
h
r
i
s
t
o
p
h
e

r
<
c
h
r
i
s
t
o
p
h
e
r
-
p
u
t
n
a
m
@
f
w
s
:
g
o
v
>
w
r
o
t
e
:

Mr. Federman,
It is not unusual for our planned timeline for these

t
y
p
e
s
o
f
M

M
P
A
i
n
c
i
d
e
n
t
a
l
t
a
k
e
a
u
t
h
o
r
i
z
a
t
i
o
n
s
t
o
c
h
a
n
g
e
s
o
m
e
w
h
a

t
a
s
w
e
w
o
r
k
t
h
r
o
u
g
h
t
h
e
p
r
o
c
e
s
s
.

I
t
u
s
u
a
l
l
y
t
a
k
e
s
u
s
1
2

t
o
l
8
m
o
n
t
h
s
t
o
p
r
o
c
e
s
s
a
r
e
q
u
e
s
t
f
o
r
a
n
i
n
c
i
d
e
n
t
a
l
t
a
k
e

r
e
g
u
l
a
t
i
o
n
.

I
n
t
h
e
c
a
s
e
o
f
t
h
e
p
r
o
p
o
s
e
d
S
E
A
s
e
i
s
m
i
c
s
u

r
v
e
y
i
n
t
h
e
A
r
c
t
i
c
N
a
t
i
o
n
a
l
W
i
l
d
l
i
f
e
R
e
f
u
g
e
e
w
e
h
a
v
e
a
v
e

r
y
a
m
b
i
t
i
o
u
s
t
i
m
e
l
i
n
e
o
f
s
e
v
e
n
m
o
n
t
h
s
t
o
c
o
m
p
l
e
t
e
t
h
e
p

r
o
c
e
s
s
.

T
h
a
t
t
i
m
e
l
i
n
e
i
s
b
a
s
e
d
o
n
w
h
e
n
w
e
r
e
c
e
i
v
e
d
t
h
e

a
p
p
l
i
c
a
t
i
o
n
a
n
d
w
h
e
n
t
h
e
p
r
o
j
e
c
t
i
s
p
r
o
p
o
s
e
d
t
o
b
e
g
i
n
.

O
u
r
c
u
r
r
e
n
t
s
t
a
t
u
s
i
s
t
h
a
t
w
e
a
r
e
t
a
k
i
n
g
m
o
r
e
t
i
m
e
t
o
w
o

r
k
t
h
r
o
u
g
h
s
o
m
e
p
a
r
t
s
o
f
t
h
e
p
r
o
c
e
s
s
t
h
a
n
w
e
o
r
i
g
i
n
a
l
l
y

a
n
t
i
c
i
p
a
t
e
d
.

I
a
m
n
o
t
a
t
l
i
b
e
r
t
y
t
o
p
r
o
v
i
d
e
f
u
r
t
h
e
r
d
e

t
a
i
l
s
a
t
t
h
i
s
t
i
m
e
.

Y
o
u
o
r
i
g
i
n
a
l
l
y
a
s
k
e
d
t
o
r
e
c
e
i
v
e
a
c

o
p
y
o
f
t
h
e
S
E
A
a
p
p
l
i
c
a
t
i
o
n
,
s
o
I
,
l
l
f
o
l
l
o
w
u
p
o
n
t
h
a
t
t
o
s

e
e
i
f
w
e
c
a
n
r
e
l
e
a
s
e
i
t
t
o
y
o
u
.

T
h
e
r
e
a
r
e
a
c
c
o
u
p
l
e
o
f
c
o
n
f

i
d
e
n
t
i
a
l
g
r
a
p
h
i
c
s
i
n
t
h
e
a
p
p
l
i
c
a
t
i
o
n
t
h
a
t
w
e
w
o
u
l
d
n
e
e

d
t
o
r
e
d
a
c
t
.

I
,
l
l
g
e
t
b
a
c
k
t
o
y
o
u
n
e
x
t
w
e
e
k
t
o
l
e
t
y
o
u
k
n
o

w
i
f
w
e
c
a
n
r
e
l
e
a
s
e
t
h
e
r
e
d
a
c
t
e
d
a
p
p
l
i
c
a
t
i
o
n
.

Christopher Putnam
Supervisory Fish and Wildlife Biologist
Marine Mammals Management
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
1011 East Tudor Rd, MS 341
Anchorage, AK 99503-6199
907-786-3844 office

907-268-0577 mobile
907-786-3816 fax

"All that is gold does not glitter, not all those who

w
a
n
d
e
r
a
r
e
l
o
s
t
;
t
h
e
o
l
d
t
h
a
t
i
s
s
t
r
o
n
g
d
o
e
s
n
o
t
w
i
t

h
e
r
,
d
e
e
p
r
o
o
t
s
a
r
e
n
o
t
r
e
a
c
h
e
d
b
y
t
h
e
f
r
o
s
t
;

-- J.R.R. Tolkien

On Thu, Oct 11, 2018 at 6:56 AM Adam Federman



(b)

(6)

█

█

█

█

█

█

█

█

█

█

█

█

█

█

█

█

█

█

█

█

█

█

█

█

█

█

█

█

█

█

█

█

█

█

█

█

█

█

█

█

█

█

█

█

█

█

█

█

█

█

█

█

█

█

█

█

█

█

█

█

█

█

█

█

█

█

█

█

>
w
r
o
t
e
:

C
h
r
i
s
,
t
h
a
n
k
s
f
o
r
t
h
e

q
u
i
c
k
r
e
p
l
y
.
A
n
y
t
h
i
n
g
y
o
u
c
a
n
t
t
e
l
l
m
e
a
b
o
u
t
w
h
y
t
h
i
n
g
s
a

r
e
t
a
k
i
n
g
l
o
n
g
e
r
t
h
a
n
e
x
p
e
c
t
e
d
?
I
s
t
h
i
s
r
o
u
t
i
n
e
?
A
d
a
m

(
8
0
2
)
5
0
3
9
8
9
4

R
e
p
o
r
t
i
n
g
F
e
l
l
o
w
:
i
n
v
e
s
t
i
g
a
t
i
v
e
F
u
n
d
a
t
t
h
e
N
a
t
i
o
n
l
n

s
t
i
t
u
t
e

A
u
t
h
o
r
o
f

F
a
s
t
i
n
g
a
n
d
F
e
a
s
t
i
n
g
:
T
h
e
L
i
f
e
o
f
V
i
s
i
o
n
a
r
v
E
o
o
d
W
r
i

t
e
r
P
a
t
i
e
n
c
e
G
r
a
y

On 10 Oct 2018, at 19:00, Putnam,
Christopher <christopher_putnam@fws.gov>
wrote:

Hi Mr. Federman,
We have fallen behind our projected timeline
and it doesn't look like we will be able to
publish the proposed ITR in the Federal
Register in October. It isn't clear how much
the current delay will affect the overall
timeline other than to say we are not on
schedule.

Christopher Putnam
Supervisory Fish and Wildlife Biologist
Marine Mammals Management
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
1011 East Tudor Rd, MS 341
Anchorage, AK 99503-6199
907-786-3844 office
907-268-0577 mobile
907-786-3816 fax

"All that is gold does not glitter, not all those

who wander are lost; the old that is strong
does not wither, deep roots are not reached by
the frost."

-- J.R.R. Tolkien

On Wed, Oct 10, 2018 at 11:50 AM Adam
Federman <(b) (6)>
wrote:

Hi Christopher,
Just wanted to check back in and see if the
FWS is still on track to publish the draft ITR
by mid-October. Many thanks.

Adam

(802) 503 9894
Reporting Fellow, Investigative Fund at the Nation
Institute
Author of *Fasting and Feasting: The Life of Visionary
Food Writer Patience Gray*

On 20 Sep 2018, at 16:55, Putnam,
Christopher
<christopher_putnam@fws.gov>
wrote:

Mr. Federman,
The schedule we are on has the draft
ITR published in the Federal Register
by Mid-October.

Christopher Putnam
Supervisory Fish and Wildlife
Biologist

Marine Mammals Management
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
1011 East Tudor Rd, MS 341
Anchorage, AK 99503-6199
907-786-3844 office
907-268-0577 mobile
907-786-3816 fax

"All that is gold does not glitter, not all
those who wander are lost; the old that
is strong does not wither, deep roots are
not reached by the frost."
-- J.R.R. Tolkien

On Thu, Sep 20, 2018 at 12:22 PM
Adam Federman

<(b) (6)> wrote:

Thank you, Christopher. Any idea
when the proposed regulation will be
published? Even a rough estimate
would be helpful.

Adam

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 20, 2018, at 3:24 PM, Putnam,
Christopher

<christopher_putnam@fws.gov>

wrote:

Mr Federman,

The application for incidental
take regulations (ITR) under the
Marine Mammal Protection Act
(MMPA) from SAExploration
(SAE) for the incidental take of
polar bears on the coastal plain
of the Arctic National Wildlife
Refuge during a proposed
seismic survey is not yet public.
We are currently working on the
SAE request and will make all

the materials available, including the application, when we publish a proposed regulation in the Federal Register for public comments.

You will find a copy of the SAE plan of operations for the proposed seismic survey at this Bureau of Land Management website, <https://eplanning.blm.gov/epl-front-office/eplanning/projectSummary.do?methodName=renderDefaultProjectSummary&projectId=111085>. This document contains a lot of the same information contained in the application for an MMPA ITR.

Please let me know if you have any other questions.

Christopher Putnam
Supervisory Fish and Wildlife
Biologist
Marine Mammals Management
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
1011 East Tudor Rd, MS 341
Anchorage, AK 99503-6199
907-786-3844 office
907-268-0577 mobile
907-786-3816 fax

"All that is gold does not glitter,
not all those who wander are
lost; the old that is strong does
not wither, deep roots are not
reached by the frost."
-- J.R.R. Tolkien

--

Patrick Lemons, Ph.D.
Chief, Marine Mammals Management
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
1011 East Tudor Road
Anchorage, AK 99503
Work: 907-786-3668
Cell: 907-717-6787
Fax: 907-786-3816
e-mail: patrick_lemons@fws.gov

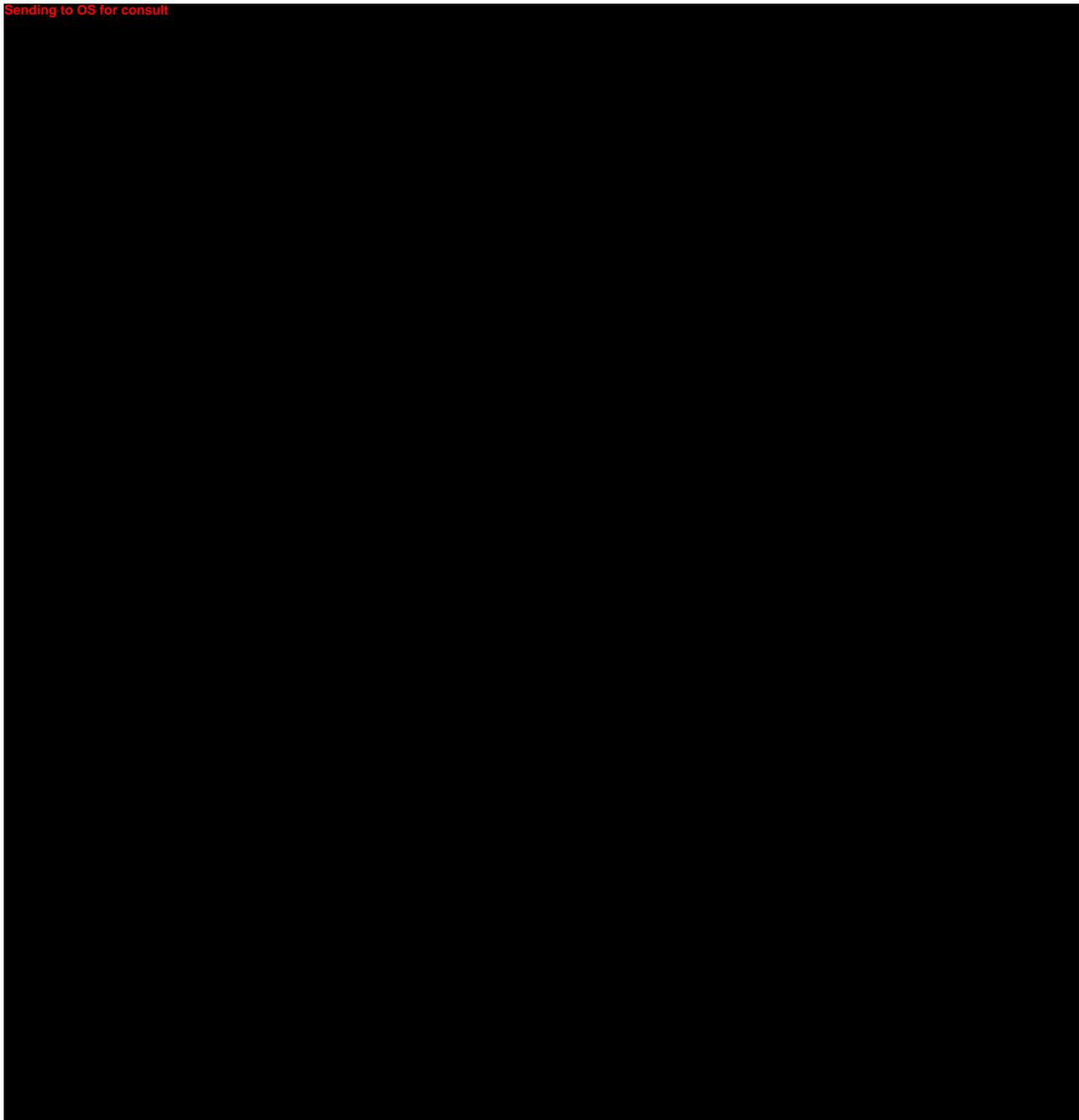
--

Sara D. Boario
Assistant Regional Director External Affairs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Alaska Region
Anchorage, Alaska
907 786 3431



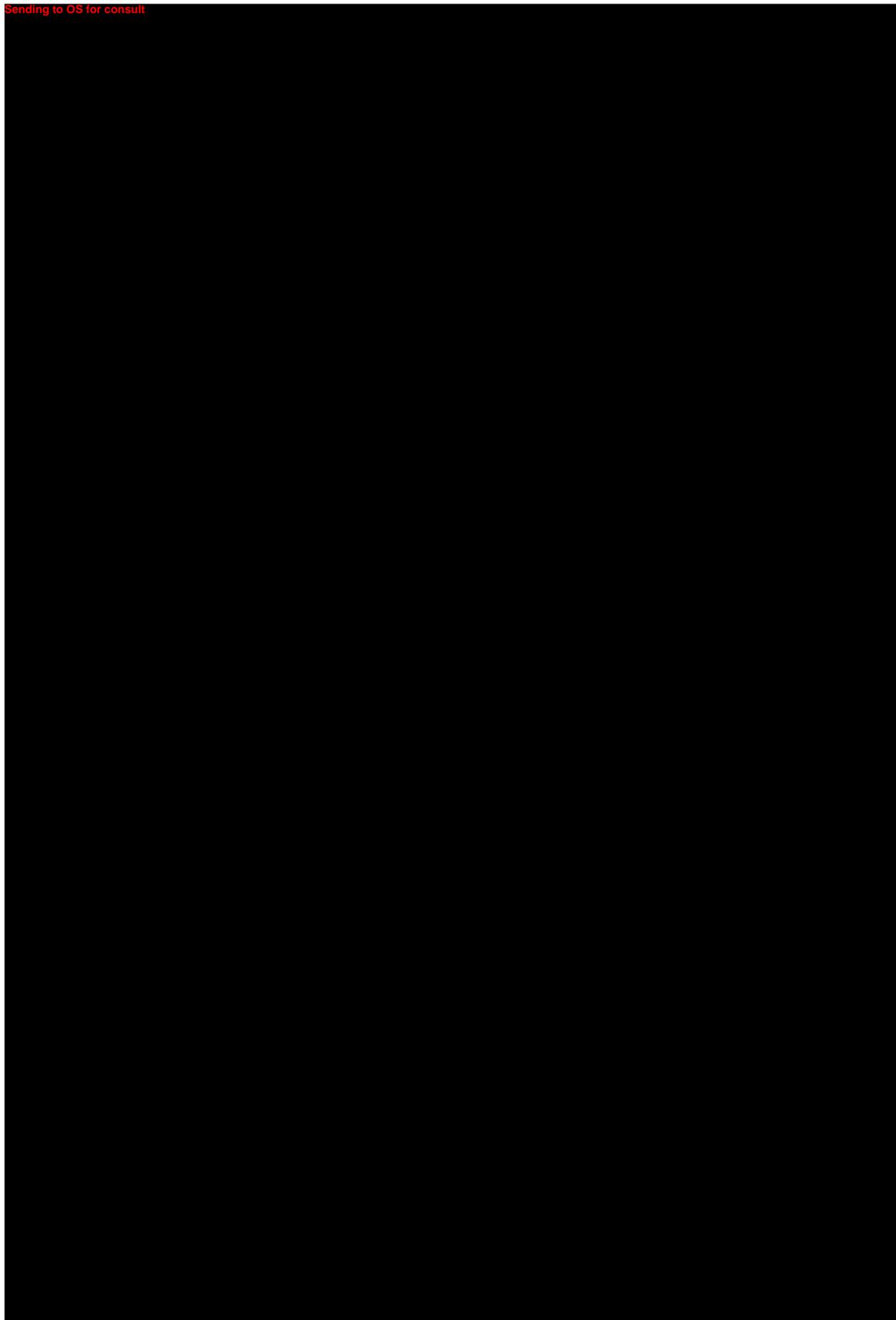
To: Wackowski, Stephen[stephen_wackowski@ios.doi.gov]
Cc: Gavin Shire[gavin_shire@fws.gov]; Lesli Ellis-Wouters[lellis@blm.gov]; Ted Murphy[t75murph@blm.gov]; Heather Swift[heather_swift@ios.doi.gov]; Faith Vander Voort[faith_vandervoort@ios.doi.gov]; Russell Newell[russell_newell@ios.doi.gov]; john_bockmier@ios.doi.gov[john_bockmier@ios.doi.gov]; ctollefson@blm.gov[ctollefson@blm.gov]; Schroeder, Darin[darin_schroeder@fws.gov]; Gregory Siekaniec[greg_siekaniec@fws.gov]; Joseph Balash[joseph_balash@ios.doi.gov]; joshua.kindred@sol.doi.gov[joshua.kindred@sol.doi.gov]
From: Boario, Sara
Sent: 2018-12-07T16:29:16-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] questions for story
Received: 2018-12-07T16:29:37-05:00
[twitter-icon Signature Block.jpg](#)
[Facebook Logo for Email Signature Block.png](#)

Sending to OS for consult

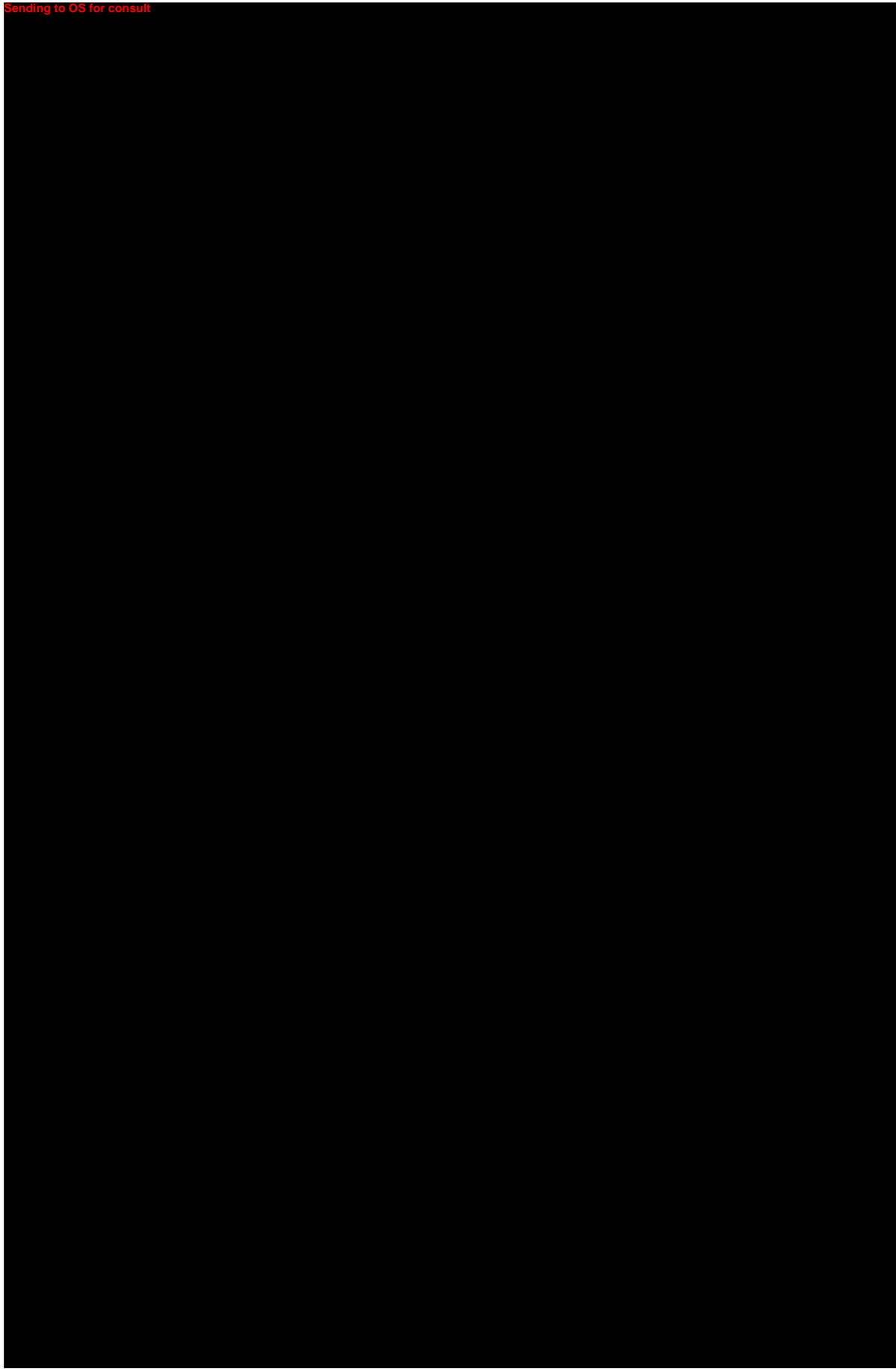


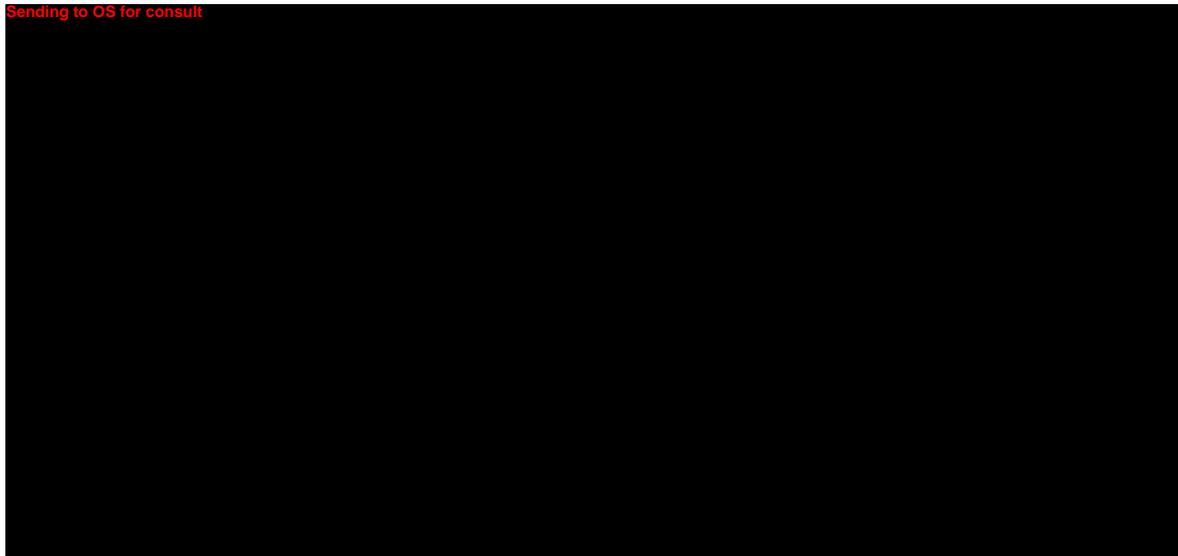
Sending to OS for consult

Sending to OS for consult



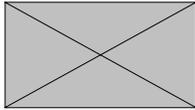
Sending to OS for consult





-
Heather Swift
Senior Advisor to the Secretary
U.S. Department of the Interior
[@DOIPressSec](#) | [@SecretaryZinke](#) | [@Interior](#)
Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov | Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov

*NOTE: Every email I send or receive is subject to release under the
Freedom of Information Act.*



On Fri, Dec 7, 2018 at 11:51 AM Shire, Gavin <gavin_shire@fws.gov> wrote:

Advice on how you want us to handle this, please.
Obviously, this is a sensitive and potentially high profile
issue. Want to make sure we are coordinated.
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

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

From: **Boario, Sara** <sara_boario@fws.gov>
Date: Fri, Dec 7, 2018 at 11:33 AM
Subject: Fwd: [EXTERNAL] questions for story
To: Gavin Shire <gavin_shire@fws.gov>

Cc: Barbara Wainman <barbara_wainman@fws.gov>

fyi - we just found out about this too. G - I'll you when I'm in.

thx

sb

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

From: **Greg Siekaniec** <greg_siekaniec@fws.gov>

Date: Thu, Dec 6, 2018 at 9:46 PM

Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] questions for story

To: Stephen Wackowski <stephen_wackowski@ios.doi.gov>

Cc: Sara Boario <sara_boario@fws.gov>

Sara,

Please ensure Steve is linked with Gavin and Barbara regarding press inquiries on ITR and EA inquiries.

Thank you,

Greg

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 6, 2018, at 8:52 PM, Stephen Wackowski
<stephen_wackowski@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

FYI. Please let me know when you get pinged
on press requests with regards to this topic.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Heather Swift
<heather_swift@ios.doi.gov>

Date: December 6, 2018 at 2:37:16 PM PST

To: stephen_wackowski@ios.doi.gov

Subject: Fwd: [EXTERNAL] questions for story

Heather Swift
US Department of the Interior

Begin forwarded message:

From: Adam
Federman

<(b) (6)>
[REDACTED]

Date: December 6, 2018 at 5:21:15 PM EST

To: Heather Swift <heather_swift@ios.doi.gov>, Faith Vander
Voort
<faith_vandervoort@ios.doi.gov>

Cc: Interior Press <Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] questions for story

To Whom It May
Concern:

I'm a reporting fellow with the Investigative Fund at the Nation Institute and intend to publish a story in *Mother Jones* based on a four-page FWS memo raising concerns about the impacts of seismic surveys on critically threatened polar bear populations in the Southern Beaufort Sea. The Information Memorandum for the Director, drafted by Gregory Siekaniec, is dated September 6 and seems to contradict DOI's earlier assertions that an environmental assessment can be

issued with a draft finding of no significant impact.

If you could please respond on the record to the following questions by 1 pm tomorrow (Friday) that would be greatly appreciated. Thank you for your time.

1. On at least two occasions BLM has publicly stated that DOI will issue an environmental assessment with a finding of no significant impact in order to allow seismic surveys of the coastal plain to move forward, possibly as early as this winter. But the September 6 FWS memo appears to contradict this assertion. How has BLM reached the conclusion that seismic surveys will have no significant impact on the coastal plain, and in particular on the threatened polar bear population?
2. The FWS memo concludes that even with mitigation measures in place impacts on the threatened polar bear population would likely be greater than what is permitted under the

Marine Mammal
Protection Act. Does
BLM dispute this
conclusion?

3. What sort of stipulations if any are being considered in the event that an incidental take permit is authorized? Is BLM confident that seismic surveys on the coastal plain will not result in Level A harassment of polar bears?

4. According to the memo BLM had intended to release an Environmental Assessment with a finding of no significant impact as early as September 10. Does BLM dispute this?

5. Did the FWS memo delay BLM's publication of the Environmental Assessment?

6. When will BLM be issuing the Environmental Assessment?

7. Does the Department expect that seismic surveys will begin this winter?

(802) 503 9894
Reporting Fellow,
Investigative Fund at the
Nation Institute
Author of *Fasting and*

Feasting: The Life of
Visionary Food Writer
Patience Gray

--

Sara D. Boario
Assistant Regional Director External Affairs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Alaska Region
Anchorage, Alaska
907 786 3431

--

Faith C. Vander Voort
Deputy Press Secretary
Department of the Interior

--

Sara D. Boario
Assistant Regional Director External Affairs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Alaska Region
Anchorage, Alaska
907 786 3431

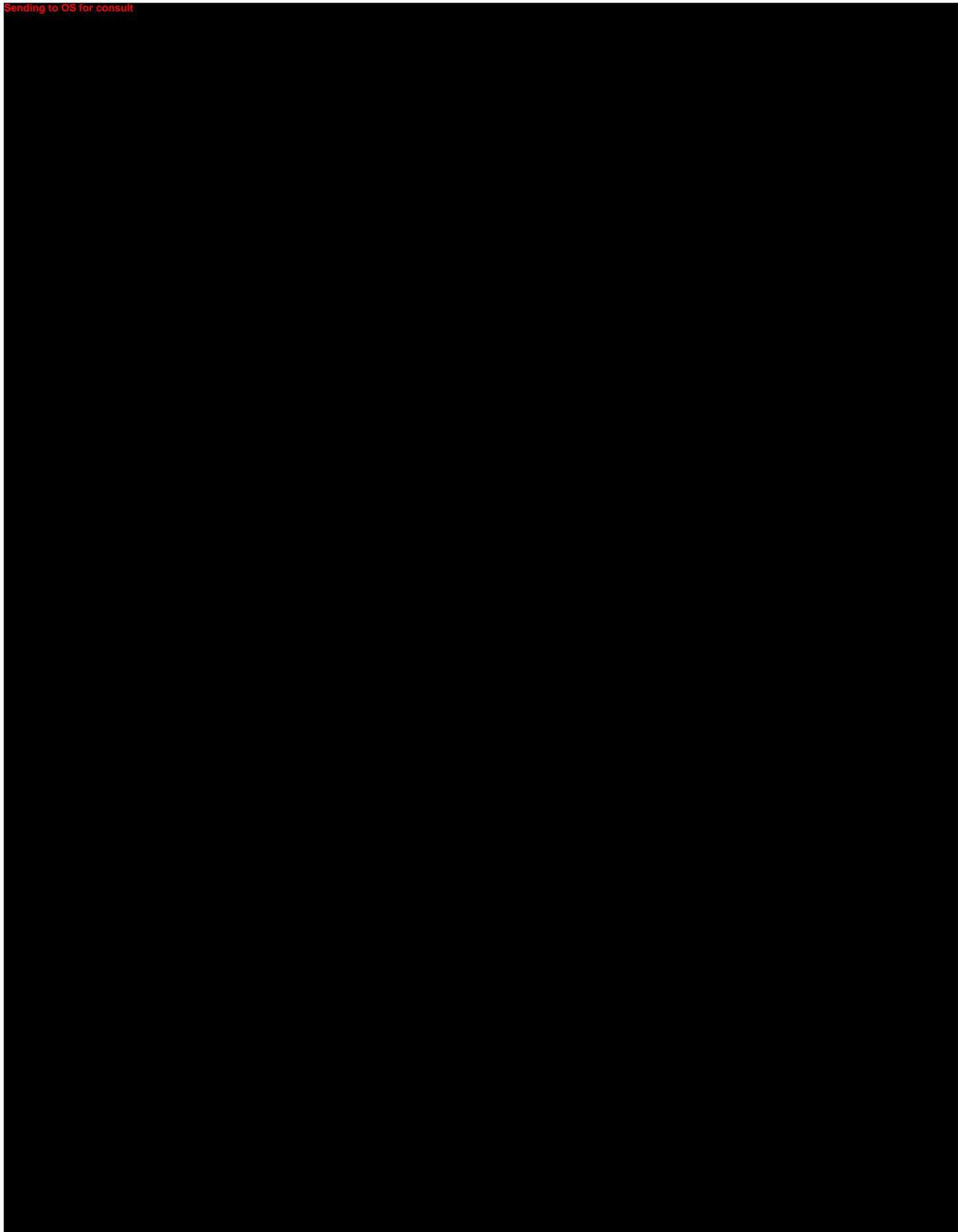


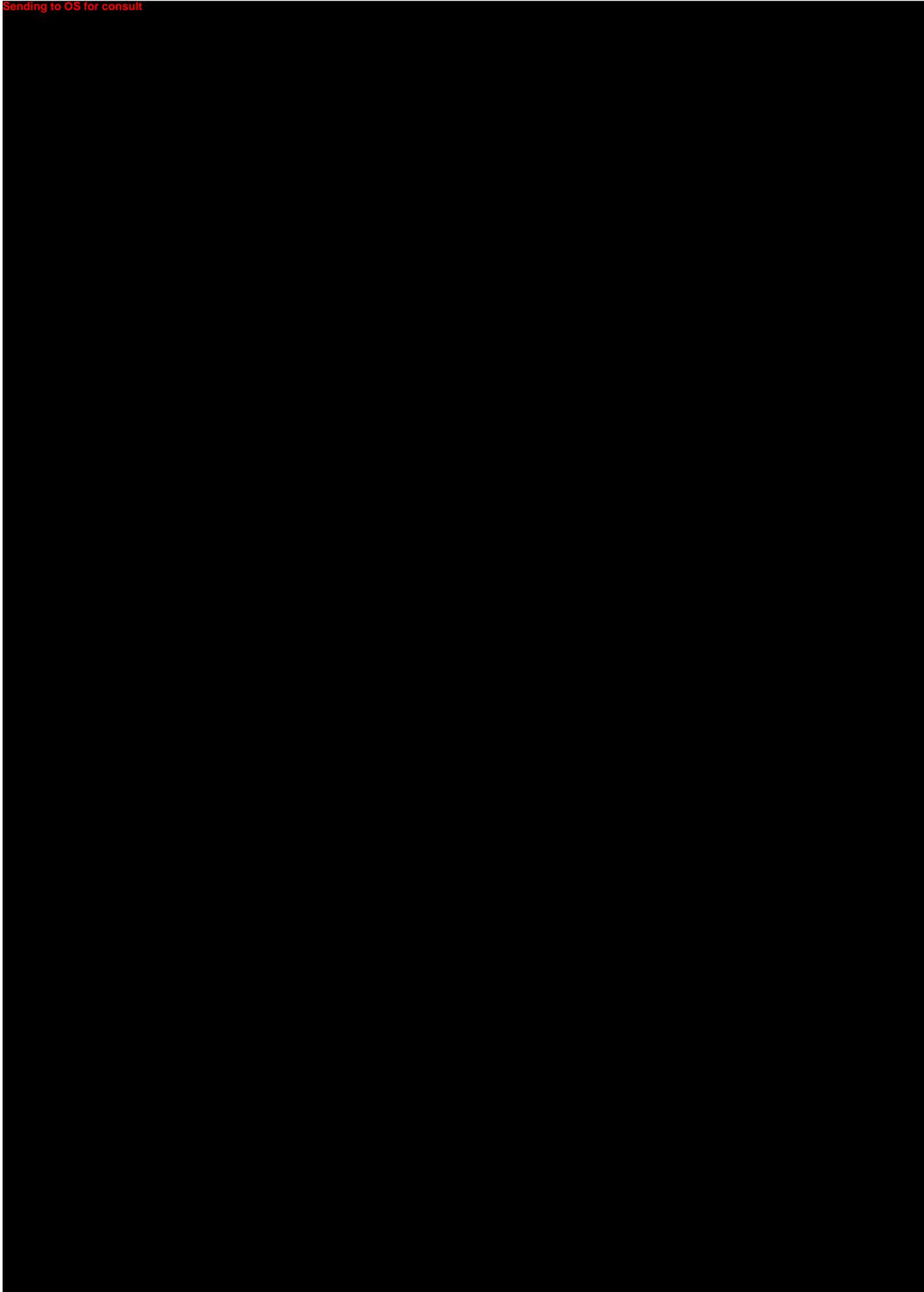
--

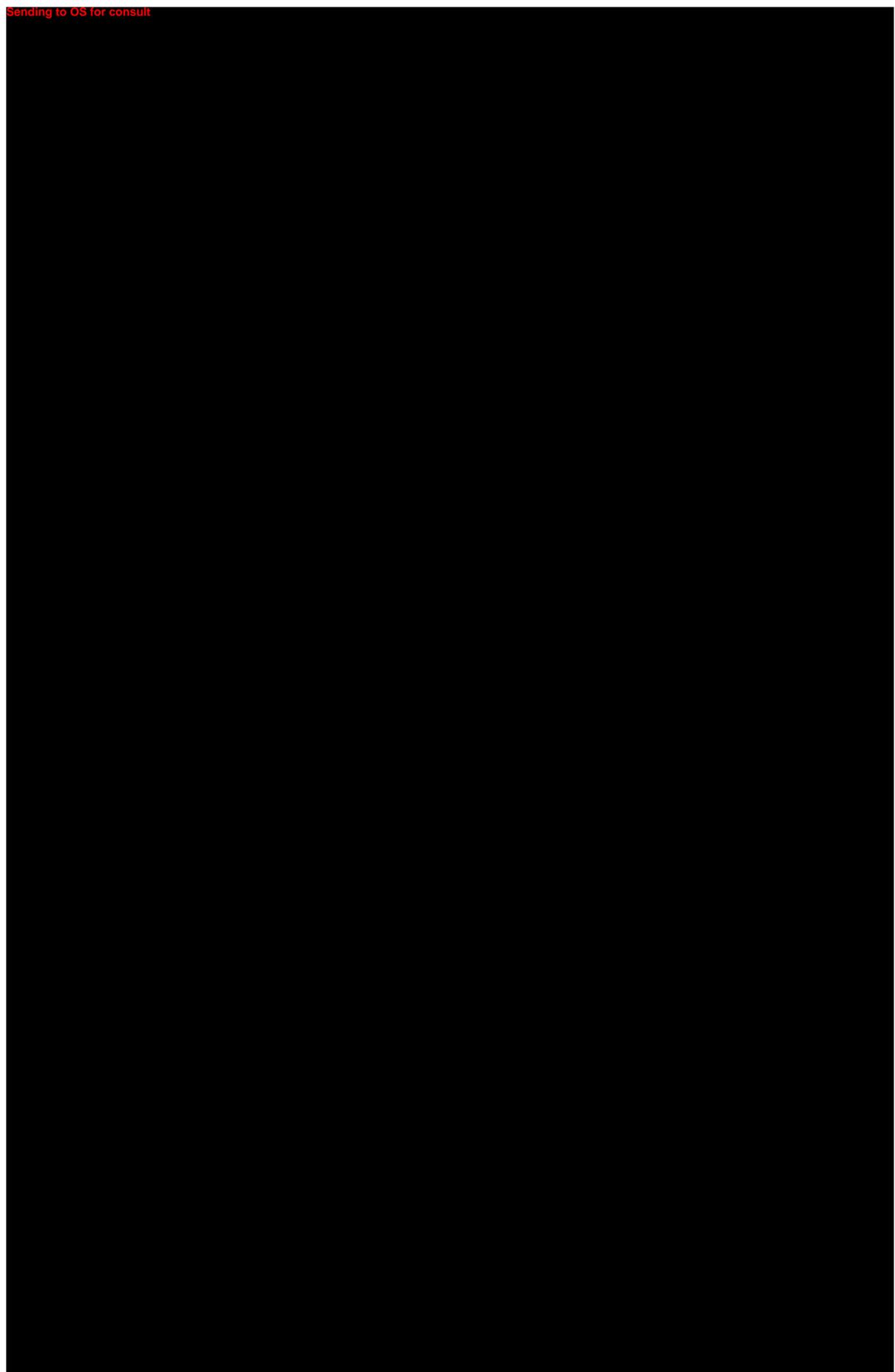
Sara D. Boario
Assistant Regional Director External Affairs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Alaska Region
Anchorage, Alaska
907 786 3431



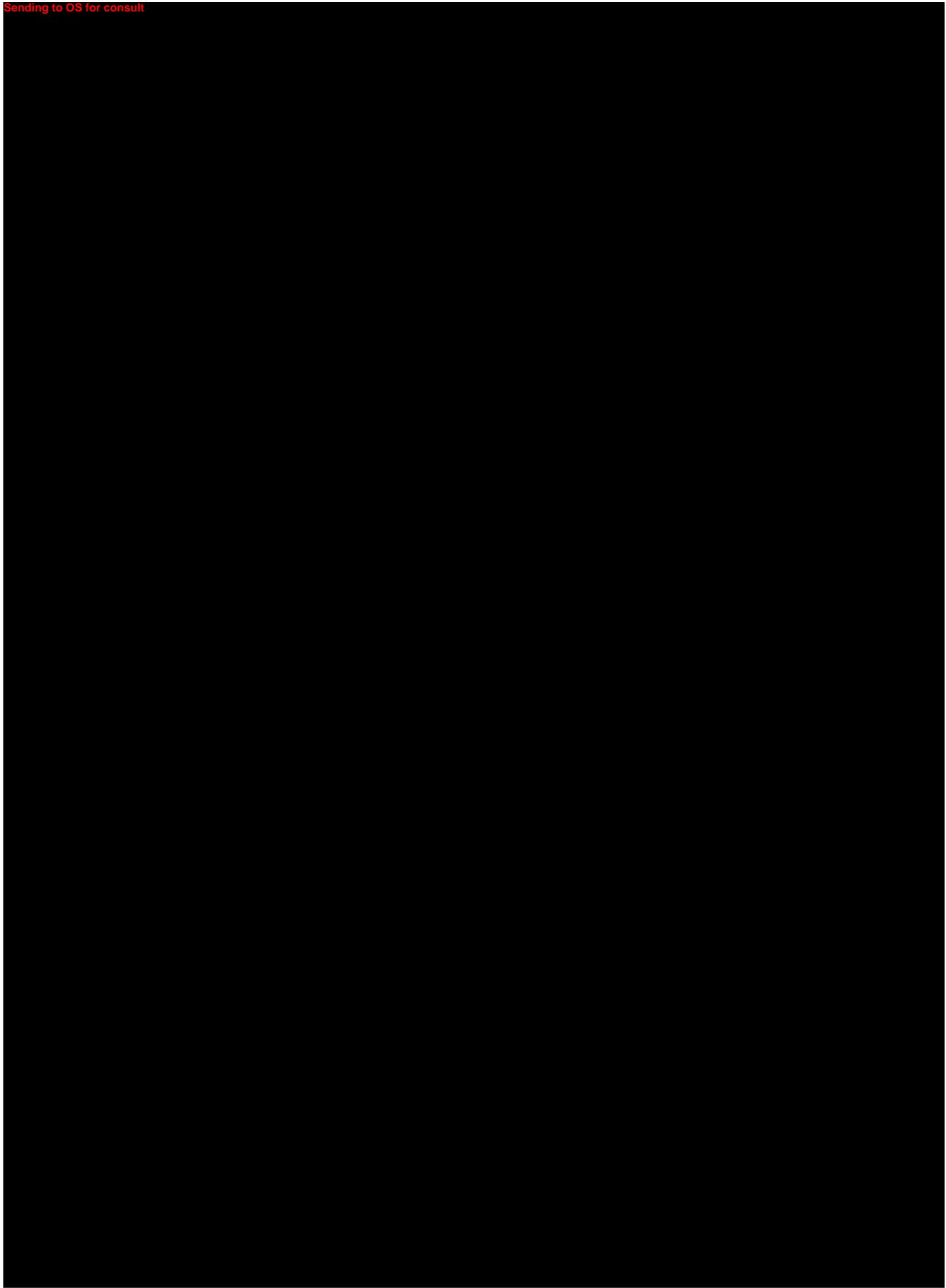
Sending to OS for consult

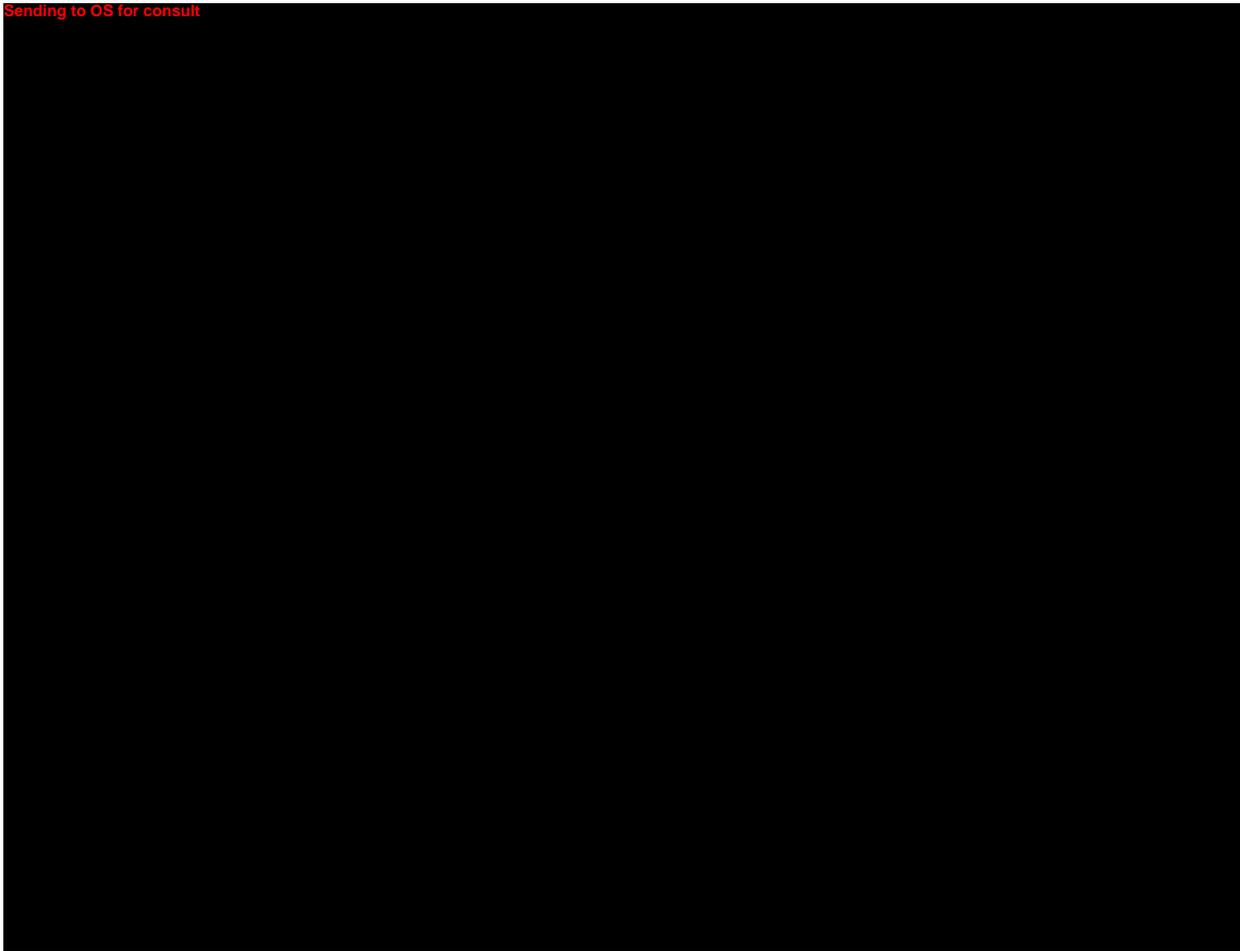






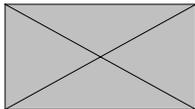
Sending to OS for consult





-
Heather Swift
Senior Advisor to the Secretary
U.S. Department of the Interior
[@DOIPressSec](#) | [@SecretaryZinke](#) | [@Interior](#)
Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov | Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov

*NOTE: Every email I send or receive is subject to release under the
Freedom of Information Act.*



On Fri, Dec 7, 2018 at 11:51 AM Shire, Gavin <gavin_shire@fws.gov> wrote:

Advice on how you want us to handle this, please. Obviously,
this is a sensitive and potentially high profile issue. Want to
make sure we are coordinated.

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

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

From: **Boario, Sara** <sara_boario@fws.gov>
Date: Fri, Dec 7, 2018 at 11:33 AM
Subject: Fwd: [EXTERNAL] questions for story
To: Gavin Shire <gavin_shire@fws.gov>
Cc: Barbara Wainman <barbara_wainman@fws.gov>

fyi - we just found out about this too. G - I'll you when I'm in.

thx

sb

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

From: **Greg Siekaniec** <greg_siekaniec@fws.gov>
Date: Thu, Dec 6, 2018 at 9:46 PM
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] questions for story
To: Stephen Wackowski <stephen_wackowski@ios.doi.gov>
Cc: Sara Boario <sara_boario@fws.gov>

Sara,

Please ensure Steve is linked with Gavin and Barbara regarding press inquiries on ITR and EA inquiries.

Thank you,

Greg

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 6, 2018, at 8:52 PM, Stephen Wackowski
<stephen_wackowski@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

FYI. Please let me know when you get pinged on press requests with regards to this topic.

Sent from my iPhone

0000012858

Begin forwarded message:

From: Heather Swift
<heather_swift@ios.doi.gov>
Date: December 6, 2018 at 2:37:16 PM PST
To: stephen_wackowski@ios.doi.gov
Subject: Fwd: [EXTERNAL] questions for story

Heather Swift
US Department of the Interior

Begin forwarded message:

From: Adam Federman
<(b) (6)>
Date: December 6, 2018 at 5:21:15 PM EST
To: Heather Swift <heather_swift@ios.doi.gov>, Faith Vander
Voort
<faith_vandervoort@ios.doi.gov>
Cc: Interior Press <Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] questions for story

To Whom It May
Concern:

I'm a reporting fellow with the Investigative Fund at the Nation Institute and intend to publish a story in *Mother Jones* based on a four-page FWS memo raising concerns about the impacts of seismic surveys on critically threatened polar bear populations in the Southern Beaufort Sea.

The Information Memorandum for the Director, drafted by Gregory Siekaniec, is dated September 6 and seems to contradict DOI's earlier assertions that an environmental assessment can be issued with a draft finding of no significant impact.

If you could please respond on the record to the following questions by 1 pm tomorrow (Friday) that would be greatly appreciated. Thank you for your time.

1. On at least two occasions BLM has publicly stated that DOI will issue an environmental assessment with a finding of no significant impact in order to allow seismic surveys of the coastal plain to move forward, possibly as early as this winter. But the September 6 FWS memo appears to contradict this assertion. How has BLM reached the conclusion that seismic surveys will have no significant impact on the coastal plain, and in particular on the threatened polar bear population?

2. The FWS memo concludes that even with mitigation measures in place impacts on the threatened polar bear population would likely be greater than what is permitted under the Marine Mammal Protection Act. Does BLM dispute this conclusion?

3. What sort of stipulations if any are being considered in the event that an incidental take permit is authorized? Is BLM confident that seismic surveys on the coastal plain will not result in Level A harassment of polar bears?

4. According to the memo BLM had intended to release an Environmental Assessment with a finding of no significant impact as early as September 10. Does BLM dispute this?

5. Did the FWS memo delay BLM's publication of the Environmental Assessment?

6. When will BLM be issuing the Environmental Assessment?

7. Does the Department expect that seismic surveys will begin this winter?

(802) 503 9894
Reporting Fellow,
Investigative Fund at the
Nation Institute
Author of *Fasting and
Feasting: The Life of
Visionary Food Writer
Patience Gray*

--

Sara D. Boario
Assistant Regional Director External Affairs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Alaska Region
Anchorage, Alaska
907 786 3431

--

Faith C. Vander Voort
Deputy Press Secretary
Department of the Interior

--

Sara D. Boario
Assistant Regional Director External Affairs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Alaska Region
Anchorage, Alaska
907 786 3431



--

Sara D. Boario
Assistant Regional Director External Affairs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Alaska Region
Anchorage, Alaska
907 786 3431

To: Stephen Wackowski[steve_wackowski@ios.doi.gov]
From: Siekaniec, Greg
Sent: 2018-12-07T19:34:56-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Fwd: questions for story
Received: 2018-12-07T19:35:39-05:00

Steve,

This is the reply to the request to answer questions. Also, Sara would like to get together with you and talk issues that we see coming and would like to discuss. Would you be willing to do so during our next regularly scheduled visit here at our office?

I could use some of your time on what you may have learned about the reorg and expectations as it has been quiet since we submitted the regional functional analysis statements.

Best,

Greg

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

From: Siekaniec, Greg <greg_siekaniec@fws.gov>
Date: Fri, Dec 7, 2018 at 3:29 PM
Subject: questions for story
To: <(b) (6)>
Cc: Boario, Sara <sara_boario@fws.gov>

Adam,

Thank you for your recent questions regarding the seismic application for the 1002 coastal plain of Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. I realize my response is later than your request; however, I want to ensure on behalf of the Fish and Wildlife Service you did receive a reply.

We do not comment on pre-decisional, deliberative or leaked, internal documents because they are often just a single part of a lengthy deliberative and analytical process. That is the case here. Over the last several months the application has changed, and as a result, our analyses and findings have changed. We are currently developing a proposed incidental take authorization that meets the required determinations under the MMPA. As part of a robust, transparent public process, we will publish the proposed authorization in the Federal Register for public comment. That proposal will describe the analysis conducted and provide the rationale for determinations under the MMPA. We encourage you to review that proposal when published as it will represent the current application and analysis. We will continue to work cooperatively with the BLM, our partners at our sister agency, as they develop an EA to accompany the proposed MMPA incidental take authorization for the proposed seismic survey on the coastal plain of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

Thanks again for your interest.

Greg Siekaniec
Regional Director
Alaska Region
US Fish and Wildlife Service

To: Patrick Lemons[patrick_lemons@fws.gov]
Cc: mary_colligan@fws.gov[mary_colligan@fws.gov]; karen_clark@fws.gov[karen_clark@fws.gov]
From: Greg Siekaniec
Sent: 2018-12-11T01:42:27-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Re: Tomorrow's call
Received: 2018-12-11T01:42:28-05:00

Will do. See you in the morning.

Sent from my iPhone

> On Dec 10, 2018, at 8:30 PM, Patrick Lemons <patrick_lemons@fws.gov> wrote:

>

> Thanks. Appreciate the update. Perhaps we should discuss for a few
> minutes before tomorrow's call. I'll be in early as I have a
> presentation to give downtown at the IPCOMM meeting so feel free to
> stop by.

>

> See you tomorrow.

> Patrick

>

> Sent from my iPhone

>

>> On Dec 10, 2018, at 8:19 PM, Greg Siekaniec <greg_siekaniec@fws.gov> wrote:

>>

>> Yes, the email made them run to Steve and claim we are asking for what
>> they feel is information unrelated to their application. Not just
>> clarifying info as Christopher noted to me. I'm hoping just a
>> differing opinion and we can smooth over the matter with some details.

>>

>> We can visit in the morning if you have time.

>>

>> Greg

>>

>>

>>

>> Sent from my iPhone

>>

>>> On Dec 10, 2018, at 7:57 PM, Patrick Lemons <patrick_lemons@fws.gov> wrote:

>>>

>>> Hi Greg,

>>>

>>> I received an invite to a conference call tomorrow with you, Steve,
>>> and Josh. I'm guessing this has to do with SAE and 1002 but it would
>>> be helpful to know the specifics. Any idea of the specifics of this
>>> call?

>>>

>>> Just for your information, last week I worked with Mary and my staff
>>> to review SAE's application. We had a list of questions for them as
>>> the updated application, as it stood, would exceed determinations. I
>>> sent those questions to them Friday afternoon and we have not received
>>> their responses. Mary has also been trying to reach Josh to update him
>>> as well. I suspect this call may be related to one or both of these
>>> issues. Any idea?

>>>

>>> Sent from my iPhone

To: Mary Colligan[mary_colligan@fws.gov]; Patrick Lemons[patrick_lemons@fws.gov]; Boario, Sara[sara_boario@fws.gov]; Lor, Socheata[socheata_lor@fws.gov]
From: Siekaniec, Greg
Sent: 2018-12-11T15:24:57-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Fwd: [EXTERNAL] IUCN intervention letter on seismic exploration in ANWR
Received: 2018-12-11T15:25:41-05:00
Let Hon Ryan Zinke US-2018-12-06.pdf

FYI

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

From: **Williams, Margaret** <margaret.williams@wwfus.org>
Date: Tue, Dec 11, 2018 at 11:11 AM
Subject: [EXTERNAL] IUCN intervention letter on seismic exploration in ANWR
To: Gregory Siekaniec@fws.gov <Gregory Siekaniec@fws.gov>

To: Greg Siekaniec[greg_siekaniec@fws.gov]
From: Lor, Socheata
Sent: 2018-12-11T17:36:39-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] IUCN intervention letter on seismic exploration in ANWR
Received: 2018-12-11T17:37:08-05:00

Thank you.

Soch

~~~~~

*Socbeata Lor, Ph.D.  
Deputy Assistant Regional Director Region 7  
National Wildlife Refuge System  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
1011 E. Tudor Road  
Anchorage, AK 99503  
Office: 907.786.3420  
Cell: 907.891.6194*

~~~~~

On Tue, Dec 11, 2018 at 11:25 AM Siekaniec, Greg <greg_siekaniec@fws.gov> wrote:

FYI

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

From: **Williams, Margaret** <margaret.williams@wwfus.org>
Date: Tue, Dec 11, 2018 at 11:11 AM
Subject: [EXTERNAL] IUCN intervention letter on seismic exploration in ANWR
To: Gregory_Siekaniec@fws.gov <Gregory_Siekaniec@fws.gov>

To: Bowen, Diane[diane_bowen@fws.gov]; Susan Wilkinson[susan_wilkinson@fws.gov]; Madonna Baucum[madonna_baucum@fws.gov]; Lord, Kenneth[ken.lord@sol.doi.gov]; Joshua Kindred[joshua.kindred@sol.doi.gov]
Cc: Colligan, Mary[mary_colligan@fws.gov]; Christopher Putnam[Christopher_Putnam@fws.gov]; Greg Siekaniec[greg_siekaniec@fws.gov]; Karen Clark[karen_clark@fws.gov]; Charles Hamilton[Charles_Hamilton@fws.gov]
From: Lemons, Patrick
Sent: 2018-12-17T04:45:00-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Re: 1002 Seismic ITR Timeline
Received: 2018-12-17T04:45:22-05:00
[Draft Proposed AR ITR - Master Working Copy 181216 - V3 For Review.docx](#)

Hi Everyone,

Once again, I do apologize for the rapid timeline and the tight turnaround of your review. However, we're trying to get this in before the potential government shutdown. So, attached is a draft of the ITR the Alaska Team put together. We're still working to finalize the Level B analysis but it won't dramatically change what you see here. I'll be sending around the call-in number for Tuesday's conference call to discuss your questions and comments. You are welcome to send those in writing to me or you can hang on to them and bring them up during our discussion. As a reminder, I've scheduled out teleconference to incorporate comments from 8am-12pm, Tuesday morning Alaska Time.

If you have any questions or need anything from my end, please let me know.
Patrick

On Fri, Dec 14, 2018 at 3:02 PM Lemons, Patrick <patrick_lemons@fws.gov> wrote:

Hi Everyone,

For those of you I have not met, my name is Patrick Lemons and I'm the Chief of the Marine Mammals Management program for the USFWS in Anchorage, Alaska. As I think you all know, we've been working rapidly to analyze the take of polar bears incidental to the proposed seismic activities in the 1002 Area of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge in order to assess whether an Incidental Take Regulation (ITR) can be promulgated. This morning we had a conversation with DOI concerning the potential government shutdown and its impact on a proposed ITR. Given the potential shutdown, we've moved our timeline up to allow submission of the Proposed Rule to the Federal Register by Wednesday, December 19th at 8pm ET. We've just received some new information from the project applicant this morning so we are incorporating those changes now. Our team in Alaska is going to work over the weekend to finalize the first draft of the Proposed Rule for submission to you first thing Monday morning for review. Everyone will only have 24 hours to review the document before comments will need to be back to our office for incorporation into the document. We plan to setup a teleconference Tuesday morning to go over everyone's comments to expedite the process. This will then allow our team the remainder of Tuesday to finish incorporating comments and for it to then be reviewed and cleared by our RD before we submit the final version to DOI by midday Wednesday. This schedule is outlined below. I do apologize for this coming at you so quickly but it's the only option we currently have to try and keep everything on schedule. If you have any questions please let me know.

Schedule

December 15-16: Alaska Regional Office to finalize first draft

December 17, 8am Alaska Time: Draft disseminated to Diane, Susan, Madonna, Ken, and Josh.

December 18, 8am Alaska Time: Comments returned, either verbally or in writing, to MMM, Alaska Regional Office,

December 18, 8am-12pm Alaska Time: Teleconference to be held to discuss and incorporate comments received.

December 19, 12pm Alaska Time: Final Version of Proposed Rule for ITR submitted to DOI.

Cheers,
Patrick

--

Patrick Lemons, Ph.D.
Chief, Marine Mammals Management
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
1011 East Tudor Road
Anchorage, AK 99503
Work: 907-786-3668
Cell: 907-717-6787
Fax: 907-786-3816
e-mail: patrick_lemons@fws.gov

--

Patrick Lemons, Ph.D.
Chief, Marine Mammals Management
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
1011 East Tudor Road
Anchorage, AK 99503
Work: 907-786-3668
Cell: 907-717-6787
Fax: 907-786-3816
e-mail: patrick_lemons@fws.gov

To: Patrick Lemons[patrick_lemons@fws.gov]
Cc: Diane Bowen[diane_bowen@fws.gov]; Wilkinson, Susan[susan_wilkinson@fws.gov]; ken.lord@sol.doi.gov[ken.lord@sol.doi.gov]; joshua.kindred@sol.doi.gov[joshua.kindred@sol.doi.gov]; Mary Colligan[mary_colligan@fws.gov]; Christopher Putnam[Christopher_Putnam@fws.gov]; greg_siekaniec@fws.gov[greg_siekaniec@fws.gov]; karen_clark@fws.gov[karen_clark@fws.gov]; Charles Hamilton[Charles_Hamilton@fws.gov]
From: Baucum, Madonna
Sent: 2018-12-17T07:22:48-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Re: 1002 Seismic ITR Timeline
Received: 2018-12-17T07:23:35-05:00

Thanks, I'll take a look. Who will be the primary contact for PRA questions?

Madonna L. Baucum
Information Collection Clearance Officer
Alternate Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer
Division of Policy, Performance, and Management Programs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
5275 Leesburg Pike, MS: BPHC
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803
Telephone: (703) 358-2503
Cell: (202) 480-0723

"You can only lead others where you yourself are willing to go." Lachlan McLean

On Mon, Dec 17, 2018 at 4:45 AM Lemons, Patrick <patrick_lemons@fws.gov> wrote:

Hi Everyone,
Once again, I do apologize for the rapid timeline and the tight turnaround of your review. However, we're trying to get this in before the potential government shutdown. So, attached is a draft of the ITR the Alaska Team put together. We're still working to finalize the Level B analysis but it won't dramatically change what you see here. I'll be sending around the call-in number for Tuesday's conference call to discuss your questions and comments. You are welcome to send those in writing to me or you can hang on to them and bring them up during our discussion. As a reminder, I've scheduled out teleconference to incorporate comments from 8am-12pm, Tuesday morning Alaska Time.

If you have any questions or need anything from my end, please let me know.
Patrick

On Fri, Dec 14, 2018 at 3:02 PM Lemons, Patrick <patrick_lemons@fws.gov> wrote:

Hi Everyone,
For those of you I have not met, my name is Patrick Lemons and I'm the Chief of the Marine Mammals Management program for the USFWS in Anchorage, Alaska. As I think you all know, we've been working rapidly to analyze the take of polar bears incidental to the proposed seismic activities in the 1002 Area of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge in order

to assess whether an Incidental Take Regulation (ITR) can be promulgated. This morning we had a conversation with DOI concerning the potential government shutdown and its impact on a proposed ITR. Given the potential shutdown, we've moved our timeline up to allow submission of the Proposed Rule to the Federal Register by Wednesday, December 19th at 8pm ET. We've just received some new information from the project applicant this morning so we are incorporating those changes now. Our team in Alaska is going to work over the weekend to finalize the first draft of the Proposed Rule for submission to you first thing Monday morning for review. Everyone will only have 24 hours to review the document before comments will need to be back to our office for incorporation into the document. We plan to setup a teleconference Tuesday morning to go over everyone's comments to expedite the process. This will then allow our team the remainder of Tuesday to finish incorporating comments and for it to then be reviewed and cleared by our RD before we submit the final version to DOI by midday Wednesday. This schedule is outlined below. I do apologize for this coming at you so quickly but it's the only option we currently have to try and keep everything on schedule. If you have any questions please let me know.

Schedule

December 15-16: Alaska Regional Office to finalize first draft

December 17, 8am Alaska Time: Draft disseminated to Diane, Susan, Madonna, Ken, and Josh.

December 18, 8am Alaska Time: Comments returned, either verbally or in writing, to MMM, Alaska Regional Office,

December 18, 8am-12pm Alaska Time: Teleconference to be held to discuss and incorporate comments received.

December 19, 12pm Alaska Time: Final Version of Proposed Rule for ITR submitted to DOI.

Cheers,
Patrick

--

Patrick Lemons, Ph.D.
Chief, Marine Mammals Management
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
1011 East Tudor Road
Anchorage, AK 99503
Work: 907-786-3668
Cell: 907-717-6787
Fax: 907-786-3816
e-mail: patrick_lemons@fws.gov

--

Patrick Lemons, Ph.D.
Chief, Marine Mammals Management
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

1011 East Tudor Road
Anchorage, AK 99503
Work: 907-786-3668
Cell: 907-717-6787
Fax: 907-786-3816
e-mail: patrick_lemons@fws.gov

To: Ted Murphy[t75murph@blm.gov]
Cc: Gregory Siekaniec[greg_siekaniec@fws.gov]
From: Colligan, Mary
Sent: 2018-12-17T12:54:06-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Fwd: [EXTERNAL] SAE Marsh Creek ITR petition_rev_5 12.14
Received: 2018-12-17T12:54:33-05:00
[1002 Seismic Program Flow rev 12.14.pptx](#)
[SAE Marsh Creek ITR petition_rev_5 12.14 \(3\).docx](#)

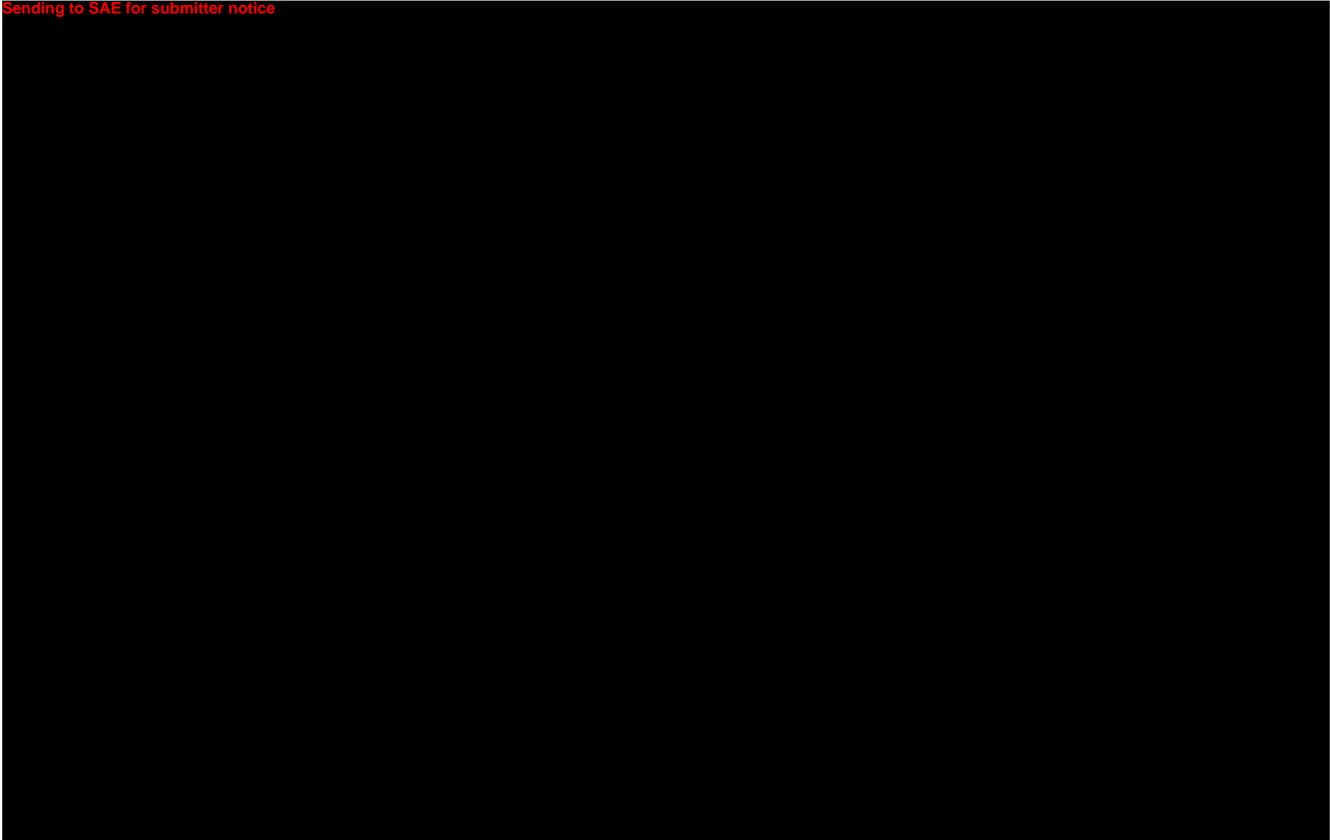
Ted Greg asked me to forward on the latest project description and related materials from SAE. Some figures and documents are labeled draft and confidential. We are working with SAE now to get them ready for posting for public review so we would appreciate limited distribution of these versions.

Thanks,
Mary

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

From: Lemons, Patrick <patrick_lemons@fws.gov>
Date: Fri, Dec 14, 2018 at 1:41 PM
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] SAE Marsh Creek ITR petition_rev_5 12.14
To: Rick Trupp <rtrupp@saexploration.com>
Cc: Forrest Burkholder <fburkholder@saexploration.com>, Colligan, Mary <mary_colligan@fws.gov>, Christopher Putnam <Christopher_Putnam@fws.gov>, Klein, Kimberly <kimberly_klein@fws.gov>, Ryan Wilson <ryan_r_wilson@fws.gov>, Bridget Crokus <bridget_crokus@fws.gov>, Patterson, Heather <heather_patterson@fws.gov>, Joshua Kindred <joshua.kindred@sol.doi.gov>

Sending to SAE for submitter notice



0000012874

Sending to SAE for submitter notice

Thanks,
Patrick

On Fri, Dec 14, 2018 at 11:31 AM Rick Trupp <rtrupp@saexploration.com> wrote:

Patrick

Sending to SAE for submitter notice

Rick

--

Patrick Lemons, Ph.D.
Chief, Marine Mammals Management
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
1011 East Tudor Road
Anchorage, AK 99503
Work: 907-786-3668
Cell: 907-717-6787
Fax: 907-786-3816
e-mail: patrick_lemons@fws.gov

--

Mary Colligan
Assistant Regional Director
Fisheries and Ecological Services
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Alaska Region
1011 E. Tudor Road, MS-361

Anchorage, AK 99503
907-786-3505
cell: 907-223-5945

To: Colligan, Mary[mary_colligan@fws.gov]
Cc: Karen Clark[karen_clark@fws.gov]; Patrick Lemons[patrick_lemons@fws.gov]
From: Greg Siekaniec
Sent: 2018-12-17T15:58:15-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Re: 1002
Received: 2018-12-17T15:58:18-05:00

Josh should draft the emergency statement in my opinion. Yes, to Wendy and Bud.
Greg

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 17, 2018, at 11:52 AM, Colligan, Mary <mary_colligan@fws.gov> wrote:

Greg and Karen I have 2 1002 ITR questions for you.

(1) Bud said that if we are still shooting for a Friday FR publication, a letter that justifies an emergency publication on short notice needs to be part of the package. Is that something we could ask Josh to draft or do you think it is being handled in HQ?

(2) Wendy asked if she and Bud could be part of the Friday briefing. We originally set it up for just those on the reviewer slip but now that it is more informational are you okay with us broadening the invitations?

Thanks

--

Mary Colligan
Assistant Regional Director
Fisheries and Ecological Services
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Alaska Region
1011 E. Tudor Road, MS-361
Anchorage, AK 99503
907-786-3505
cell: 907-223-5945

To: Sara Boario[sara_boario@fws.gov]
From: Greg Siekaniec
Sent: 2018-12-17T18:55:11-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Fwd: Today's 1002 Alaska Briefing - documents attached
Received: 2018-12-17T18:55:19-05:00
[ATT00001.htm](#)
[DEIS mtg calendar 12 17 2018.pdf](#)
[Step 4 CP NOA Comm Plan \(1\) 12 17 2018.docx](#)
[ATT00002.htm](#)
[Step 4 CP NOA Press Release 12 17 2018.docx](#)
[ATT00003.htm](#)

FYI

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Frost, Eileen" <efrost@blm.gov>
Date: December 17, 2018 at 11:47:04 AM AKST
To: Gregory Siekaniec <greg_siekaniec@fws.gov>
Cc: "Murphy, Ted" <t75murph@blm.gov>, Stephen Wackowski
<steve_wackowski@ios.doi.gov>
Subject: Today's 1002 Alaska Briefing - documents attached

Hi Greg,
Steve asked us to make sure you have access to the documents for today's call. I added you to the invitation and attached hereto are the documents.

--

Best Regards,

Eileen A. Frost

Executive Assistant to Ted A. Murphy
Acting State Director
Bureau of Land Management
222 W. 7th Avenue, #13
Anchorage, AK 99513
907-271-5080

0000012878

To: Gary Frazer[gary_frazer@fws.gov]
Cc: Holly Herod[holly_herod@fws.gov]; Diane Bowen[diane_bowen@fws.gov]; gregory_siekaniec@fws.gov[gregory_siekaniec@fws.gov]; Mary Colligan[mary_colligan@fws.gov]; Patrick Lemons[Patrick_Lemons@fws.gov]; bud_cribley@fws.gov[bud_cribley@fws.gov]
From: Wilkinson, Susan
Sent: 2018-12-18T12:08:42-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Re: OMB briefing for itr
Received: 2018-12-18T12:09:06-05:00
[BP for OMB on MMPA ITR rule 9.12.18.docx](#)

Here is an older version (from September).

On Tue, Dec 18, 2018 at 12:02 PM Frazer, Gary <gary_frazer@fws.gov> wrote:

I just spoke with Sean Gallagher in ExecSec and asked him to reach out to our OIRA desk officer (Matt Oreska) to see if he could be available for a 30 min telecon briefing later today. Also just spoke with Greg Siekaniec to alert him to that, and he's going to give Patrick and Mary a heads up that we'll need one of them to get on the phone with me and our desk officer if we can get something scheduled. Will let you know as soon as something gets arranged. In the near term, is there a bp in the can that we can send to OMB to describe this proposed rule and it's context? Do not divert to developing one, if you don't already have one available. -- GDF

Gary Frazer
Assistant Director -- Ecological Services
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
(202) 208-4646

On Tue, Dec 18, 2018 at 11:46 AM Herod, Holly <holly_herod@fws.gov> wrote:

OMB desk officer:

"We are available Thursday before 10 AM and between 11 AM and 2 PM. We also have additional available times on Friday."

Holly Herod

Acting Chief, Division of Restoration and Recovery
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Headquarters
Ecological Services, MS: ES
5275 Leesburg Pike
Falls Church, VA 22041 3803
703 358 2068 (direct)
703 965 2278 (cell and 24 hour Spill Response Backup)

NOTE: All email correspondence and attachments received from or sent to me are subject to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and may be disclosed to third parties.

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

0000012879

From: **Bowen, Diane** <diane_bowen@fws.gov>
Date: Tue, Dec 18, 2018 at 9:53 AM
Subject: Fwd: 1002 Seismic ITR Timeline
To: Holly Herod <holly_herod@fws.gov>

Hi Holly,
Just an FYI, in case anyone is asked while I'm on leave this Thursday and Friday. I expect Marine Mammals Management in AK will be taking the lead on this briefing.

Please let me know if you'd like to chat. Thanks, Diane.

Diane Bowen
National Marine Mammal Coordinator
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Headquarters
MS: ES
5275 Leesburg Pike
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803
703/358-1709

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

From: **Wilkinson, Susan** <susan_wilkinson@fws.gov>
Date: Tue, Dec 18, 2018 at 9:25 AM
Subject: Re: 1002 Seismic ITR Timeline
To: Patrick Lemons <patrick_lemons@fws.gov>, Bivan Patnaik <bivan_patnaik@ios.doi.gov>
Cc: Diane Bowen <diane_bowen@fws.gov>, Madonna Baucum <madonna_baucum@fws.gov>, Kenneth Lord <ken.lord@sol.doi.gov>, <joshua.kindred@sol.doi.gov>, Mary Colligan <mary_colligan@fws.gov>, Putnam, Christopher <Christopher_Putnam@fws.gov>, Gregory Siekaniec <greg_siekaniec@fws.gov>, Karen Clark <karen_clark@fws.gov>, Hamilton, Charles <Charles_Hamilton@fws.gov>

Good morning.

I just got word from the DOI Office of the Executive Secretariat (OES) that the Office of Management and Budget wants a briefing on this proposed rule. Here is a message from the OMB desk officer:

"We are available Thursday before 10 AM and between 11 AM and 2 PM. We also have additional available times on Friday."

So please determine who will conduct the briefing and what times you might be available. I have added Bivan Patnaik from DOI--OES to this email chain, as Bivan is the person who will coordinates the briefing with OMB.

On Mon, Dec 17, 2018 at 7:49 PM Lemons, Patrick <patrick_lemons@fws.gov> wrote:

Hi Everyone,

The call-in information for tomorrow's discussion is below. I've blocked out 8am to 12pm, Alaska Time in case we need the extra time. If you are attending in person, we are meeting in the Mary Smith Conference Room on the third floor of the Regional Office in Anchorage. Feel free to call my cell if you have any issues calling in or accessing the building.

Call-in Number: (b) (5) CIP

Passcode: (b) (5) CIP

Let me know if you have any questions.

Patrick

On Mon, Dec 17, 2018 at 12:45 AM Lemons, Patrick <patrick_lemons@fws.gov> wrote:

Hi Everyone,

Once again, I do apologize for the rapid timeline and the tight turnaround of your review. However, we're trying to get this in before the potential government shutdown. So, attached is a draft of the ITR the Alaska Team put together. We're still working to finalize the Level B analysis but it won't dramatically change what you see here. I'll be sending around the call-in number for Tuesday's conference call to discuss your questions and comments. You are welcome to send those in writing to me or you can hang on to them and bring them up during our discussion. As a reminder, I've scheduled out teleconference to incorporate comments from 8am-12pm, Tuesday morning Alaska Time.

If you have any questions or need anything from my end, please let me know.

Patrick

On Fri, Dec 14, 2018 at 3:02 PM Lemons, Patrick <patrick_lemons@fws.gov> wrote:

Hi Everyone,

For those of you I have not met, my name is Patrick Lemons and I'm the Chief of the Marine Mammals Management program for the USFWS in Anchorage, Alaska. As I think you all know, we've been working rapidly to analyze the take of polar bears incidental to the proposed seismic activities in the 1002 Area of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge in order to assess whether an Incidental Take Regulation (ITR) can be promulgated. This morning we had a conversation with DOI concerning the potential government shutdown and its impact on a proposed ITR. Given the potential shutdown, we've moved our timeline up to allow submission of the Proposed Rule to the Federal Register by Wednesday, December 19th at 8pm ET. We've just received some new information from the project applicant this morning so we are incorporating those changes now. Our team in Alaska is going to work over the weekend to finalize the first draft of the Proposed Rule for submission to you first thing Monday morning for review. Everyone will only have 24 hours to review the document before comments will need to be back to our office for incorporation into the document. We plan to setup a

teleconference Tuesday morning to go over everyone's comments to expedite the process. This will then allow our team the remainder of Tuesday to finish incorporating comments and for it to then be reviewed and cleared by our RD before we submit the final version to DOI by midday Wednesday. This schedule is outlined below. I do apologize for this coming at you so quickly but it's the only option we currently have to try and keep everything on schedule. If you have any questions please let me know.

Schedule

December 15-16: Alaska Regional Office to finalize first draft

December 17, 8am Alaska Time: Draft disseminated to Diane, Susan, Madonna, Ken, and Josh.

December 18, 8am Alaska Time: Comments returned, either verbally or in writing, to MMM, Alaska Regional Office,

December 18, 8am-12pm Alaska Time: Teleconference to be held to discuss and incorporate comments received.

December 19, 12pm Alaska Time: Final Version of Proposed Rule for ITR submitted to DOI.

Cheers,
Patrick

--

Patrick Lemons, Ph.D.
Chief, Marine Mammals Management
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
1011 East Tudor Road
Anchorage, AK 99503
Work: 907-786-3668
Cell: 907-717-6787
Fax: 907-786-3816
e-mail: patrick_lemons@fws.gov

--

Patrick Lemons, Ph.D.
Chief, Marine Mammals Management
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
1011 East Tudor Road
Anchorage, AK 99503
Work: 907-786-3668
Cell: 907-717-6787
Fax: 907-786-3816
e-mail: patrick_lemons@fws.gov

--

Patrick Lemons, Ph.D.
Chief, Marine Mammals Management
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
1011 East Tudor Road
Anchorage, AK 99503
Work: 907-786-3668
Cell: 907-717-6787
Fax: 907-786-3816
e-mail: patrick_lemons@fws.gov

--

Susan Wilkinson
Division of Policy, Performance, and Management Programs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Headquarters

5275 Leesburg Pike, MS: BPHC
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803
703-358-2506

--

Susan Wilkinson
Division of Policy, Performance, and Management Programs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Headquarters

5275 Leesburg Pike, MS: BPHC
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803
703-358-2506

To: Colligan, Mary[mary_colligan@fws.gov]
Cc: Holly Herod[holly_herod@fws.gov]; Diane Bowen[diane_bowen@fws.gov]; Wilkinson, Susan[susan_wilkinson@fws.gov]; Gregory Siekaniec[gregory_siekaniec@fws.gov]; Patrick Lemons[Patrick_Lemons@fws.gov]; Cribley, Bud[bud_cribley@fws.gov]
From: Frazer, Gary
Sent: 2018-12-18T12:09:50-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Re: OMB briefing for itr
Received: 2018-12-18T12:09:51-05:00

No worries. Thanks. -- GDF
Gary Frazer
Assistant Director -- Ecological Services
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
(202) 208-4646

On Tue, Dec 18, 2018 at 12:06 PM Mary Colligan <mary_colligan@fws.gov> wrote:

Unfortunately we do not have an updated briefing paper since the application just arrived on Friday.

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 18, 2018, at 8:02 AM, Frazer, Gary <gary_frazer@fws.gov> wrote:

I just spoke with Sean Gallagher in ExecSec and asked him to reach out to our OIRA desk officer (Matt Oreska) to see if he could be available for a 30 min telecon briefing later today. Also just spoke with Greg Siekaniec to alert him to that, and he's going to give Patrick and Mary a heads up that we'll need one of them to get on the phone with me and our desk officer if we can get something scheduled. Will let you know as soon as something gets arranged.

In the near term, is there a bp in the can that we can send to OMB to describe this proposed rule and it's context? Do not divert to developing one, if you don't already have one available. -- GDF

Gary Frazer
Assistant Director -- Ecological Services
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
(202) 208-4646

On Tue, Dec 18, 2018 at 11:46 AM Herod, Holly <holly_herod@fws.gov> wrote:

OMB desk officer:

"We are available Thursday before 10 AM and between 11 AM and 2 PM. We also have additional available times on Friday."

Holly Herod

Acting Chief, Division of Restoration and Recovery
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Headquarters
Ecological Services, MS: ES
5275 Leesburg Pike
Falls Church, VA 22041 3803
703 358 2068 (direct)
703 965 2278 (cell and 24 hour Spill Response Backup)

NOTE: All email correspondence and attachments received from or sent to me are subject to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and may be disclosed to third parties.

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

From: **Bowen, Diane** <diane_bowen@fws.gov>
Date: Tue, Dec 18, 2018 at 9:53 AM
Subject: Fwd: 1002 Seismic ITR Timeline
To: Holly Herod <holly_herod@fws.gov>

Hi Holly,
Just an FYI, in case anyone is asked while I'm on leave this Thursday and Friday. I expect Marine Mammals Management in AK will be taking the lead on this briefing.

Please let me know if you'd like to chat. Thanks, Diane.

Diane Bowen
National Marine Mammal Coordinator
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Headquarters
MS: ES
5275 Leesburg Pike
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803
703/358-1709

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

From: **Wilkinson, Susan** <susan_wilkinson@fws.gov>
Date: Tue, Dec 18, 2018 at 9:25 AM
Subject: Re: 1002 Seismic ITR Timeline
To: Patrick Lemons <patrick_lemons@fws.gov>, Bivan Patnaik <bivan_patnaik@ios.doi.gov>
Cc: Diane Bowen <diane_bowen@fws.gov>, Madonna Baucum <madonna_baucum@fws.gov>, Kenneth Lord <ken.lord@sol.doi.gov>, <joshua.kindred@sol.doi.gov>, Mary Colligan <mary_colligan@fws.gov>, Putnam, Christopher <Christopher_Putnam@fws.gov>, Gregory Siekaniec <greg_siekaniec@fws.gov>, Karen Clark <karen_clark@fws.gov>, Hamilton,

0000012885

Charles <Charles_Hamilton@fws.gov>

Good morning.

I just got word from the DOI Office of the Executive Secretariat (OES) that the Office of Management and Budget wants a briefing on this proposed rule. Here is a message from the OMB desk officer:

"We are available Thursday before 10 AM and between 11 AM and 2 PM. We also have additional available times on Friday."

So please determine who will conduct the briefing and what times you might be available. I have added Bivan Patnaik from DOI--OES to this email chain, as Bivan is the person who will coordinates the briefing with OMB.

On Mon, Dec 17, 2018 at 7:49 PM Lemons, Patrick <patrick_lemons@fws.gov> wrote:

Hi Everyone,
The call-in information for tomorrow's discussion is below. I've blocked out 8am to 12pm, Alaska Time in case we need the extra time. If you are attending in person, we are meeting in the Mary Smith Conference Room on the third floor of the Regional Office in Anchorage. Feel free to call my cell if you have any issues calling in or accessing the building.

Call-in Number: (b) (5) CIP

Passcode: (b) (5) CIP

Let me know if you have any questions.

Patrick

On Mon, Dec 17, 2018 at 12:45 AM Lemons, Patrick <patrick_lemons@fws.gov> wrote:

Hi Everyone,
Once again, I do apologize for the rapid timeline and the tight turnaround of your review. However, we're trying to get this in before the potential government shutdown. So, attached is a draft of the ITR the Alaska Team put together. We're still working to finalize the Level B analysis but it won't dramatically change what you see here. I'll be sending around the call-in number for Tuesday's conference call to discuss your questions and comments. You are welcome to send those in writing to me or you can hang on to them and bring them up during our discussion. As a reminder, I've scheduled out teleconference to incorporate comments from 8am-12pm, Tuesday morning Alaska Time.

If you have any questions or need anything from my end, please let me know.

Patrick

On Fri, Dec 14, 2018 at 3:02 PM Lemons, Patrick <patrick_lemons@fws.gov> wrote:

Hi Everyone,

For those of you I have not met, my name is Patrick Lemons and I'm the Chief of the Marine Mammals Management program for the USFWS in Anchorage, Alaska. As I think you all know, we've been working rapidly to analyze the take of polar bears incidental to the proposed seismic activities in the 1002 Area of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge in order to assess whether an Incidental Take Regulation (ITR) can be promulgated. This morning we had a conversation with DOI concerning the potential government shutdown and it's impact on a proposed ITR. Given the potential shutdown, we've moved our timeline up to allow submission of the Proposed Rule to the Federal Register by Wednesday, December 19th at 8pm ET. We've just received some new information from the project applicant this morning so we are incorporating those changes now. Our team in Alaska is going to work over the weekend to finalize the first draft of the Proposed Rule for submission to you first thing Monday morning for review. Everyone will only have 24 hours to review the document before comments will need to be back to our office for incorporation into the document. We plan to setup a teleconference Tuesday morning to go over everyone's comments to expedite the process. This will then allow our team the remainder of Tuesday to finish incorporating comments and for it to then be reviewed and cleared by our RD before we submit the final version to DOI by midday Wednesday. This schedule is outlined below. I do apologize for this coming at you so quickly but it's the only option we currently have to try and keep everything on schedule. If you have any questions please let me know.

Schedule

December 15-16: Alaska Regional Office to finalize first draft

December 17, 8am Alaska Time: Draft disseminated to Diane, Susan, Madonna, Ken, and Josh.

December 18, 8am Alaska Time: Comments returned, either verbally or in writing, to MMM, Alaska Regional Office,

December 18, 8am-12pm Alaska Time: Teleconference to be held to discuss and incorporate comments received.

December 19, 12pm Alaska Time: Final Version of Proposed Rule for ITR submitted to DOI.

Cheers,
Patrick

--

Patrick Lemons, Ph.D.
Chief, Marine Mammals Management
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
1011 East Tudor Road

0000012887

Anchorage, AK 99503
Work: 907-786-3668
Cell: 907-717-6787
Fax: 907-786-3816
e-mail: patrick_lemons@fws.gov

--

Patrick Lemons, Ph.D.
Chief, Marine Mammals Management
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
1011 East Tudor Road
Anchorage, AK 99503
Work: 907-786-3668
Cell: 907-717-6787
Fax: 907-786-3816
e-mail: patrick_lemons@fws.gov

--

Patrick Lemons, Ph.D.
Chief, Marine Mammals Management
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
1011 East Tudor Road
Anchorage, AK 99503
Work: 907-786-3668
Cell: 907-717-6787
Fax: 907-786-3816
e-mail: patrick_lemons@fws.gov

--

Susan Wilkinson
Division of Policy, Performance, and Management Programs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Headquarters

5275 Leesburg Pike, MS: BPHC
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803
703-358-2506

To: Frazer, Gary[gary_frazer@fws.gov]
Cc: Wilkinson, Susan[susan_wilkinson@fws.gov]; Holly Herod[holly_herod@fws.gov]; Diane Bowen[diane_bowen@fws.gov]; Gregory Siekaniec[gregory_siekaniec@fws.gov]; Colligan, Mary[mary_colligan@fws.gov]; Patrick Lemons[Patrick_Lemons@fws.gov]; Cribley, Bud[bud_cribley@fws.gov]
From: Siekaniec, Greg
Sent: 2018-12-18T13:18:19-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Re: OMB briefing for itr
Received: 2018-12-18T13:19:37-05:00

Thank you Gary,
I agree this looks good for a general context on MMPA and ITR requirements.

greg

On Tue, Dec 18, 2018 at 8:14 AM Frazer, Gary <gary_frazer@fws.gov> wrote:

Thanks, Sue. This looks fine to give him the context. I'll pass it on to ExecSec. -- GDF

Gary Frazer
Assistant Director -- Ecological Services
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
(202) 208-4646

On Tue, Dec 18, 2018 at 12:08 PM Wilkinson, Susan <susan_wilkinson@fws.gov> wrote:

Here is an older version (from September).

On Tue, Dec 18, 2018 at 12:02 PM Frazer, Gary <gary_frazer@fws.gov> wrote:

I just spoke with Sean Gallagher in ExecSec and asked him to reach out to our OIRA desk officer (Matt Oreska) to see if he could be available for a 30 min telecon briefing later today. Also just spoke with Greg Siekaniec to alert him to that, and he's going to give Patrick and Mary a heads up that we'll need one of them to get on the phone with me and our desk officer if we can get something scheduled. Will let you know as soon as something gets arranged.

In the near term, is there a bp in the can that we can send to OMB to describe this proposed rule and it's context? Do not divert to developing one, if you don't already have one available. -- GDF

Gary Frazer
Assistant Director -- Ecological Services
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
(202) 208-4646

On Tue, Dec 18, 2018 at 11:46 AM Herod, Holly <holly_herod@fws.gov> wrote:

OMB desk officer:

"We are available Thursday before 10 AM and between 11 AM and 2 PM. We also have additional available times on Friday."

Holly Herod

Acting Chief, Division of Restoration and Recovery
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Headquarters
Ecological Services, MS: ES
5275 Leesburg Pike
Falls Church, VA 22041 3803
703 358 2068 (direct)
703 965 2278 (cell and 24 hour Spill Response Backup)

NOTE: All email correspondence and attachments received from or sent to me are subject to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and may be disclosed to third parties.

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

From: **Bowen, Diane** <diane_bowen@fws.gov>
Date: Tue, Dec 18, 2018 at 9:53 AM
Subject: Fwd: 1002 Seismic ITR Timeline
To: Holly Herod <holly_herod@fws.gov>

Hi Holly,

Just an FYI, in case anyone is asked while I'm on leave this Thursday and Friday. I expect Marine Mammals Management in AK will be taking the lead on this briefing.

Please let me know if you'd like to chat. Thanks, Diane.

Diane Bowen
National Marine Mammal Coordinator
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Headquarters
MS: ES
5275 Leesburg Pike
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803
703/358-1709

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

From: **Wilkinson, Susan** <susan_wilkinson@fws.gov>
Date: Tue, Dec 18, 2018 at 9:25 AM
Subject: Re: 1002 Seismic ITR Timeline
To: Patrick Lemons <patrick_lemons@fws.gov>, Bivan Patnaik <bivan_patnaik@ios.doi.gov>
Cc: Diane Bowen <diane_bowen@fws.gov>, Madonna Baucum <madonna_baucum@fws.gov>, Kenneth Lord <ken.lord@sol.doi.gov>, <joshua.kindred@sol.doi.gov>, Mary Colligan <mary_colligan@fws.gov>, Putnam,

0000012890

Christopher <Christopher_Putnam@fws.gov>, Gregory Siekaniec <greg_siekaniec@fws.gov>, Karen Clark <karen_clark@fws.gov>, Hamilton, Charles <Charles_Hamilton@fws.gov>

Good morning.

I just got word from the DOI Office of the Executive Secretariat (OES) that the Office of Management and Budget wants a briefing on this proposed rule. Here is a message from the OMB desk officer:

"We are available Thursday before 10 AM and between 11 AM and 2 PM. We also have additional available times on Friday."

So please determine who will conduct the briefing and what times you might be available. I have added Bivan Patnaik from DOI--OES to this email chain, as Bivan is the person who will coordinates the briefing with OMB.

On Mon, Dec 17, 2018 at 7:49 PM Lemons, Patrick <patrick_lemons@fws.gov> wrote:

Hi Everyone,

The call-in information for tomorrow's discussion is below. I've blocked out 8am to 12pm, Alaska Time in case we need the extra time. If you are attending in person, we are meeting in the Mary Smith Conference Room on the third floor of the Regional Office in Anchorage. Feel free to call my cell if you have any issues calling in or accessing the building.

Call-in Number: (b) (5) CIP

Passcode: (b) (5) CIP

Let me know if you have any questions.

Patrick

On Mon, Dec 17, 2018 at 12:45 AM Lemons, Patrick <patrick_lemons@fws.gov> wrote:

Hi Everyone,

Once again, I do apologize for the rapid timeline and the tight turnaround of your review. However, we're trying to get this in before the potential government shutdown. So, attached is a draft of the ITR the Alaska Team put together. We're still working to finalize the Level B analysis but it won't dramatically change what you see here. I'll be sending around the call-in number for Tuesday's conference call to discuss your questions and comments. You are welcome to send those in writing to me or you can hang on to them and bring them up during our discussion. As a reminder, I've scheduled out teleconference to incorporate comments from 8am-12pm, Tuesday morning Alaska Time.

If you have any questions or need anything from my end, please let me know.

Patrick

On Fri, Dec 14, 2018 at 3:02 PM Lemons, Patrick <patrick_lemons@fws.gov> wrote:

Hi Everyone,

For those of you I have not met, my name is Patrick Lemons and I'm the Chief of the Marine Mammals Management program for the USFWS in Anchorage, Alaska. As I think you all know, we've been working rapidly to analyze the take of polar bears incidental to the proposed seismic activities in the 1002 Area of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge in order to assess whether an Incidental Take Regulation (ITR) can be promulgated. This morning we had a conversation with DOI concerning the potential government shutdown and its impact on a proposed ITR. Given the potential shutdown, we've moved our timeline up to allow submission of the Proposed Rule to the Federal Register by Wednesday, December 19th at 8pm ET. We've just received some new information from the project applicant this morning so we are incorporating those changes now. Our team in Alaska is going to work over the weekend to finalize the first draft of the Proposed Rule for submission to you first thing Monday morning for review. Everyone will only have 24 hours to review the document before comments will need to be back to our office for incorporation into the document. We plan to setup a teleconference Tuesday morning to go over everyone's comments to expedite the process. This will then allow our team the remainder of Tuesday to finish incorporating comments and for it to then be reviewed and cleared by our RD before we submit the final version to DOI by midday Wednesday. This schedule is outlined below. I do apologize for this coming at you so quickly but it's the only option we currently have to try and keep everything on schedule. If you have any questions please let me know.

Schedule

December 15-16: Alaska Regional Office to finalize first draft

December 17, 8am Alaska Time: Draft disseminated to Diane, Susan, Madonna, Ken, and Josh.

December 18, 8am Alaska Time: Comments returned, either verbally or in writing, to MMM, Alaska Regional Office,

December 18, 8am-12pm Alaska Time: Teleconference to be held to discuss and incorporate comments received.

December 19, 12pm Alaska Time: Final Version of Proposed Rule for ITR submitted to DOI.

Cheers,
Patrick

--

Patrick Lemons, Ph.D.
Chief, Marine Mammals Management
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
1011 East Tudor Road
Anchorage, AK 99503
Work: 907-786-3668
Cell: 907-717-6787
Fax: 907-786-3816

e-mail: patrick_lemons@fws.gov

--

Patrick Lemons, Ph.D.
Chief, Marine Mammals Management
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
1011 East Tudor Road
Anchorage, AK 99503
Work: 907-786-3668
Cell: 907-717-6787
Fax: 907-786-3816
e-mail: patrick_lemons@fws.gov

--

Patrick Lemons, Ph.D.
Chief, Marine Mammals Management
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
1011 East Tudor Road
Anchorage, AK 99503
Work: 907-786-3668
Cell: 907-717-6787
Fax: 907-786-3816
e-mail: patrick_lemons@fws.gov

--

Susan Wilkinson
Division of Policy, Performance, and Management Programs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Headquarters

5275 Leesburg Pike, MS: BPHC
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803
703-358-2506

--

Susan Wilkinson
Division of Policy, Performance, and Management Programs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Headquarters

5275 Leesburg Pike, MS: BPHC
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803
703-358-2506

To: Gregory Siekaniec[greg_siekaniec@fws.gov]; Karen Clark[karen_clark@fws.gov]
Cc: Patrick Lemons[patrick_lemons@fws.gov]
From: Colligan, Mary
Sent: 2018-12-18T20:16:51-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Proposed ITR
Received: 2018-12-18T20:16:47-05:00
Draft Proposed AR ITR - Master Working Copy 181218 v4 crp.docx

Greg and Karen We are doing some clean up particularly in the regulatory section, but the substance won't change.

Thanks

--

Mary Colligan
Assistant Regional Director
Fisheries and Ecological Services
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Alaska Region
1011 E. Tudor Road, MS-361
Anchorage, AK 99503
907-786-3505
cell: 907-223-5945

To: Gavin Shire[gavin_shire@fws.gov]
Cc: Lesli Ellis-Wouters[lellis@blm.gov]; Wackowski, Stephen[stephen_wackowski@ios.doi.gov]; Gregory Siekaniec[greg_siekaniec@fws.gov]; Karen Clark[karen_clark@fws.gov]; Ted Murphy[t75murph@blm.gov]; Nichelle (Shelly) Jones[njones@blm.gov]
From: Boario, Sara
Sent: 2018-12-18T20:59:54-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: DRAFT joint press release FWS/BLM for PBITR and Seismic EA
Received: 2018-12-18T20:59:49-05:00
[NR Joint FWS BLM PB and Seismic EA 121818.docx](#)
[twitter-icon Signature Block.jpg](#)
[Facebook Logo for Email Signature Block.png](#)

Hi Gavin -

Attached, please find a draft, joint press release that covers both FWS proposed regulations authorizing SAExploration, Inc. the nonlethal, incidental take by harassment of a small number of polar bears...and the BLM's Environmental Assessment of SAE's application for authorization to conduct seismic operations.

Steve Wackowski, copied, as well as Greg Siekaniec have reviewed and signed off on this version (Steve is also coordinating with the Solicitor).

Please let us know if Margaret would prefer to be quoted and serve as spokesperson. Right now we have Greg as the placeholder.

Give me a call in the morning.

sara

--

Sara D. Boario
Assistant Regional Director External Affairs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Alaska Region
Anchorage, Alaska
907 786 3431



To: jim_kurth@fws.gov[jim_kurth@fws.gov]; Bud Cribley[bud_cribley@fws.gov]
From: Greg Siekaniec
Sent: 2018-12-19T09:58:16-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Fwd: SAE Proposed MMPA ITR and EA
Received: 2018-12-19T09:58:27-05:00
[ATT00001.htm](#)
[Note to Reviewer ITR.pdf](#)
[Draft Proposed AR ITR - final from AK Region181218.docx](#)
[ATT00002.htm](#)
[Arctic Refuge Proposed EA final from AK Region 181218.docx](#)
[ATT00003.htm](#)

Jim/Bud, I see you were not on the email chain. My apology. This is headed down the fast lane thanks to a great team of polar bear professionals. Gary called and offered to help Shepard this along given his experience with short deadlines.
Please call if you have questions.

Greg

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Colligan, Mary" <mary_colligan@fws.gov>
Date: December 18, 2018 at 7:48:31 PM AKST
To: Margaret Everson <margaret_e_everson@fws.gov>, Gary Frazer <gary_frazer@fws.gov>
Cc: Gregory Siekaniec <greg_siekaniec@fws.gov>, Karen Clark <karen_clark@fws.gov>, Patrick Lemons <patrick_lemons@fws.gov>, Joshua Kindred <joshua.kindred@sol.doi.gov>, Christopher Putnam <christopher_putnam@fws.gov>
Subject: SAE Proposed MMPA ITR and EA

Attached please find the proposed MMPA Incidental Take Regulation, draft EA, and note to reviewer.

--

Mary Colligan
Assistant Regional Director
Fisheries and Ecological Services
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Alaska Region
1011 E. Tudor Road, MS-361
Anchorage, AK 99503
907-786-3505
cell: 907-223-5945

0000012896

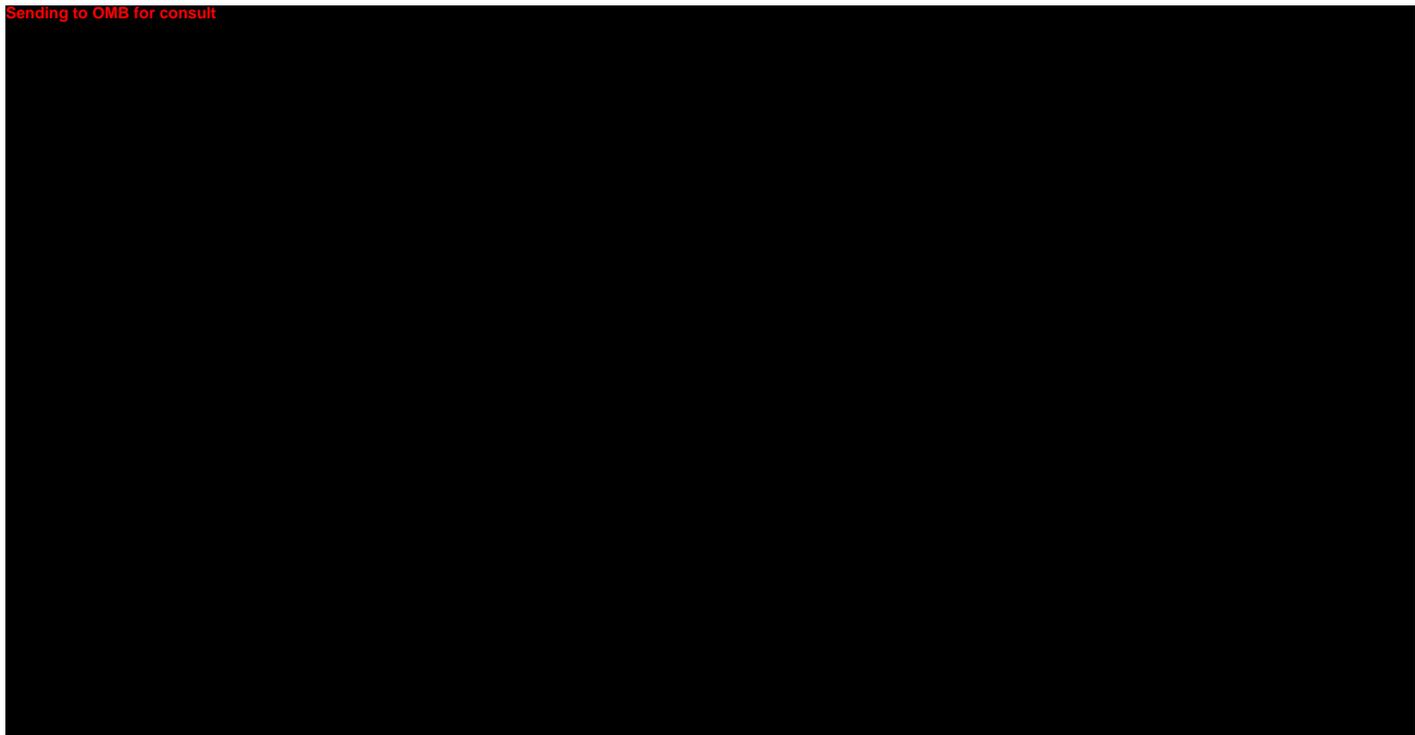
To: Colligan, Mary[mary_colligan@fws.gov]
Cc: Gregory Siekaniec[gregory_siekaniec@fws.gov]; Karen Clark[Karen_Clark@fws.gov]; Patrick Lemons[Patrick_Lemons@fws.gov]
From: Frazer, Gary
Sent: 2018-12-19T12:30:22-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Briefing for OMB on draft proposed ITR for Arctic coastal plain marine mammals
Received: 2018-12-19T12:30:22-05:00
[invite.ics](#)

Here are the details for the call with OMB tomorrow. Hope the time slot works for you. -- GDF
Gary Frazer
Assistant Director -- Ecological Services
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
(202) 208-4646

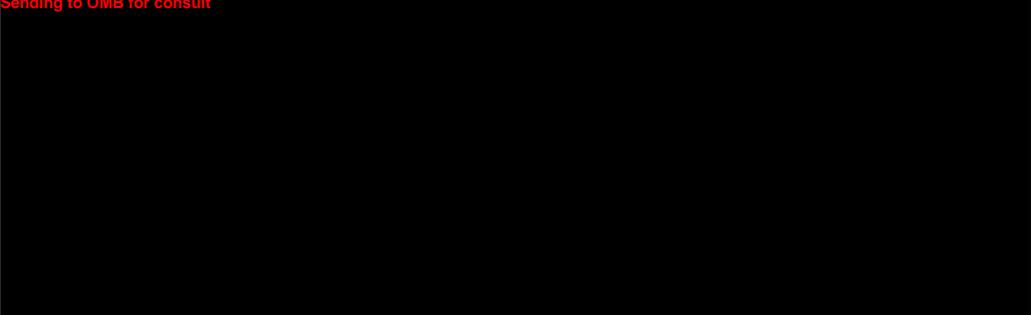
----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Patnaik, Bivan** <bivan_patnaik@ios.doi.gov>
Date: Wed, Dec 19, 2018 at 12:25 PM
Subject: Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Briefing for OMB on draft proposed ITR for Arctic coastal plain marine mammals
To: Gary Frazer <gary_frazer@fws.gov>, Lillie, Juliette <juliette_lillie@ios.doi.gov>, Sean Gallagher <sean_gallagher@ios.doi.gov>

Sending to OMB for consult



Sending to OMB for consult



--

Bivan R. Patnaik

Deputy Director of Regulatory Affairs

Office of the Executive Secretariat and Regulatory Affairs

Department of Interior

(W) 202.208.4582

(WC) 202.684.5186

To: Shire, Gavin[gavin_shire@fws.gov]; John Bockmier[john_bockmier@ios.doi.gov]
Cc: Boario, Sara[sara_boario@fws.gov]; Lesli Ellis-Wouters[lellis@blm.gov]; Gregory Siekaniec[greg_siekaniec@fws.gov]; Karen Clark[karen_clark@fws.gov]; Ted Murphy[t75murph@blm.gov]; Nichelle (Shelly) Jones[njones@blm.gov]; Christina Meister[christina_meister@fws.gov]
From: Wackowski, Stephen
Sent: 2018-12-19T13:29:42-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Re: DRAFT joint press release FWS/BLM for PBITR and Seismic EA
Received: 2018-12-19T13:29:59-05:00

I'm fine with this. Except I think we need to use "stock" in paragraph 4 as that is an important MMPA term and different from the ESA term "population". Also, I forgot to mention this yesterday, but we did a great video explaining what modern north slope seismic is. **Lesli- can you please send around the link to the video and include it somewhere in the lead of the presser?**

Steve Wackowski
Senior Adviser for Alaskan Affairs
Department of the Interior
4230 University Drive, Suite 300
Anchorage, AK 99508
907-271-5485

On Wed, Dec 19, 2018 at 9:22 AM Shire, Gavin <gavin_shire@fws.gov> wrote:

Here are my suggested edits to the release with notations on some of them. These are suggestions and I know we are in a rush, but I hope you can entertain them. We will run by OCO as soon as you get back to us.

Is there a comms plan to go with this to explain what we are doing and how?

+ Christina Meister

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

On Tue, Dec 18, 2018 at 8:59 PM Boario, Sara <sara_boario@fws.gov> wrote:

Hi Gavin -

Attached, please find a draft, joint press release that covers both FWS proposed regulations authorizing SAExploration, Inc. the nonlethal, incidental take by harassment of a small number of polar bears...and the BLM's Environmental Assessment of SAE's application for authorization to conduct seismic operations.

Steve Wackowski, copied, as well as Greg Siekaniec have reviewed and signed off on this version (Steve is also coordinating with the Solicitor).

Please let us know if Margaret would prefer to be quoted and serve as spokesperson. Right now we have Greg as the placeholder.

Give me a call in the morning.

sara

--

Sara D. Boario
Assistant Regional Director External Affairs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Alaska Region
Anchorage, Alaska
907 786 3431

To: mary_colligan@fws.gov[mary_colligan@fws.gov]
From: Greg Siekaniec
Sent: 2018-12-19T13:41:39-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Fwd: DRAFT joint press release FWS/BLM for PBITR and Seismic EA
Received: 2018-12-19T13:41:48-05:00
[ATT00001.htm](#)
[Facebook Logo for Email Signature Block.png](#)
[twitter-icon Signature Block.jpg](#)
[ATT00002.htm](#)
[NR Joint FWS BLM PB and Seismic EA 121818.docx](#)
[ATT00003.htm](#)

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Shire, Gavin" <gavin_shire@fws.gov>
Date: December 19, 2018 at 5:22:18 AM AKST
To: "Boario, Sara" <sara_boario@fws.gov>
Cc: Lesli Ellis-Wouters <lellis@blm.gov>, "Wackowski, Stephen" <stephen_wackowski@ios.doi.gov>, Gregory Siekaniec <greg_siekaniec@fws.gov>, Karen Clark <karen_clark@fws.gov>, Ted Murphy <t75murph@blm.gov>, "Nichelle (Shelly) Jones" <njones@blm.gov>, Christina Meister <christina_meister@fws.gov>
Subject: Re: DRAFT joint press release FWS/BLM for PBITR and Seismic EA

Here are my suggested edits to the release with notations on some of them. These are suggestions and I know we are in a rush, but I hope you can entertain them. We will run by OCO as soon as you get back to us. Is there a comms plan to go with this to explain what we are doing and how?

+ Christina Meister

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

On Tue, Dec 18, 2018 at 8:59 PM Boario, Sara <sara_boario@fws.gov> wrote:

0000012901

Hi Gavin -

Attached, please find a draft, joint press release that covers both FWS proposed regulations authorizing SAExploration, Inc. the nonlethal, incidental take by harassment of a small number of polar bears...and the BLM's Environmental Assessment of SAE's application for authorization to conduct seismic operations.

Steve Wackowski, copied, as well as Greg Siekaniec have reviewed and signed off on this version (Steve is also coordinating with the Solicitor).

Please let us know if Margaret would prefer to be quoted and serve as spokesperson. Right now we have Greg as the placeholder.

Give me a call in the morning.

sara

--

Sara D. Boario
Assistant Regional Director External Affairs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Alaska Region
Anchorage, Alaska
907 786 3431

To: Gregory Siekaniec[greg_siekaniec@fws.gov]; Wackowski,
Stephen[stephen_wackowski@ios.doi.gov]; Karen Clark[karen_clark@fws.gov]
From: Boario, Sara
Sent: 2018-12-19T17:50:41-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: latest version of press release
Received: 2018-12-19T17:50:43-05:00
[NR Joint FWS BLM PB and Seismic EA 121918 v3.docx](#)
[twitter-icon Signature Block.jpg](#)
[Facebook Logo for Email Signature Block.png](#)

let me know if you're good and I can get it back to gavin, lesli etc (their edits have been incorporated already).

thx

sb

--

Sara D. Boario
Assistant Regional Director External Affairs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Alaska Region
Anchorage, Alaska
907 786 3431



To: Gregory Siekaniec[greg_siekaniec@fws.gov]; Karen Clark[karen_clark@fws.gov]; Gavin Shire[gavin_shire@fws.gov]; Andrea Medeiros[andrea_medeiros@fws.gov]
From: Boario, Sara
Sent: 2018-12-20T12:57:34-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Fwd: EMBARGOED UNTIL 1:00 PM EASTERN - BLM Alaska Releases Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Coastal Plain Oil and Gas Leasing Program
Received: 2018-12-20T12:57:53-05:00
[Facebook Logo for Email Signature Block.png](#)
[twitter-icon Signature Block.jpg](#)

FYI

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

From: Ellis-Wouters, Lesli <lellis@blm.gov>
Date: Thu, Dec 20, 2018 at 8:54 AM
Subject: Fwd: EMBARGOED UNTIL 1:00 PM EASTERN - BLM Alaska Releases Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Coastal Plain Oil and Gas Leasing Program
To: Sara Boario <sara_boario@fws.gov>

They gave me a 15 minute turn around to get this posted and sent out.

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

From: Benemelis, Isabel <isabel_benemelis@ios.doi.gov>
Date: Thu, Dec 20, 2018 at 8:31 AM
Subject: Fwd: EMBARGOED UNTIL 1:00 PM EASTERN - BLM Alaska Releases Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Coastal Plain Oil and Gas Leasing Program
To: Tara Rigler <trigler@blm.gov>, Jeff Krauss <jkrauss@blm.gov>, Winston, Beverly <bwinston@blm.gov>, Lesli Ellis-Wouters <lellis@blm.gov>

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

From: Vander Voort, Faith <faith_vandervoort@ios.doi.gov>
Date: Thu, Dec 20, 2018 at 12:22 PM
Subject: EMBARGOED UNTIL 1:00 PM EASTERN - BLM Alaska Releases Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Coastal Plain Oil and Gas Leasing Program
To: Newell, Russell <russell_newell@ios.doi.gov>, Hinson, Alex <alex_hinson@ios.doi.gov>

EMBARGOED UNTIL 1:00 PM EASTERN

Please direct all questions to BLM.

Date: December 20, 2018
Contact: blm_press@blm.gov

0000012904

BLM Alaska Releases Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Coastal Plain Oil and Gas Leasing Program

A Draft EIS is the next step in responsible path forward to fulfilling obligations under the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 (Public Law 115-97)

ANCHORAGE – In furthering the Trump Administration’s goals of responsibly developing our natural resources, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) today released the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Coastal Plain Oil and Gas Leasing Program for public review and comment. This action comes nearly one year to the day of the signing of the landmark Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, which included a mandate that the U.S. Secretary of the Interior establish a program for the development of the Coastal Plain.

Congress specifically identified the Coastal Plain for its potential for oil and natural gas resources in Section 1002 of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act of 1980 (ANILCA). Oil and gas from the Coastal Plain is an important resource for meeting our nation’s energy demands and creating employment opportunities for Alaska’s North Slope residents.

"An energy-dominant America starts with an energy-dominant Alaska, and among the scores of accomplishments we have had at Interior under President Donald J. Trump, taking these steps toward opening the 1002 section of Alaska's North Slope stands out among the most impactful toward bolstering America's economic strength and security," **said U.S. Secretary of the Interior Ryan Zinke**. "For decades, Alaskans on both sides of the aisle have overwhelmingly supported opening the 1002 to energy exploration and development. I commend the President for giving Alaskans a voice again in how their public lands are used and for his commitment to responsible development of the Coastal Plain."

"This draft reflects thousands of hours of work that demonstrate a commitment to the development of these documents and the range of alternatives," **said Deputy Secretary of the Interior David Bernhardt**. "We look forward to a very robust public comment period to better inform our final decision."

"A 1987 Interior report to Congress fulfilling our requirements under ANILCA recommended the Coastal Plain for oil and gas development. Since completion of that report, numerous oil fields have been discovered near the Coastal Plain and oil field technologies have changed significantly," **said Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Land and Minerals Management Joe Balash**. "The depth of expertise in arctic resources and issues from tribal members, state, local and federal agency staff was integral in developing a comprehensive Draft Environmental Impact Statement."

The publication of the Environmental Protection Agency’s Notice of Availability in the Federal Register on Dec. 28, 2018, will officially begin the 45-day public comment period. The release of the Draft EIS is the next step in implementing the provisions in the Tax Act for establishing and administering a competitive oil and gas program for the leasing, development, production, and transportation of oil and gas in and from the Coastal Plain area within the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

"Alaskans have anticipated the release of the draft environmental statement for decades," **said Alaska Gov. Michael J. Dunleavy**. "My administration and Alaskans overwhelmingly support ANWR development, and we are eager to inform and educate our fellow Americans that it will be done utilizing the highest environmental standards and safeguards to protect its land, waters and wildlife."

“Continuing engagement with the communities most affected by this process is key in developing a comprehensive analysis,” **said acting State Director Ted Murphy**. “We received substantial input in the development of this draft from cooperating agencies and stakeholders throughout Alaska, our nation and Canada, and I look forward to continuing that engagement in this comment period.”

The first lease sale will be held after the Final EIS and Record of Decision is issued and will offer not fewer than 400,000 acres area-wide of high-potential lands for bid.

The BLM is seeking feedback on the alternatives to the proposed action within the parameters outlined in the Tax Act, which will inform the Final EIS and the Record of Decision. Substantive comments should be as specific as possible and can be submitted by a variety of methods. The BLM will hold public meetings in: Anchorage, Arctic Village, Fairbanks, Kaktovik, Fort Yukon, Venetie, Utqiagvik and Washington, D.C., at times and locations to be announced in local media, newspapers, and on the BLM website.

Comments on the Draft EIS will be accepted through Feb. 11 and can be sent by any of the following methods:

- **Website:** www.blm.gov/alaska
- **Mail:**
 - Attn: Coastal Plain Oil and Gas Leasing Program EIS
 - 222 West 7th Avenue, Stop #13
 - Anchorage, Alaska 99513.

Documents pertinent to this proposal may be examined at the BLM Alaska State Office, BLM Alaska Public Information Center, 222 West 7th Avenue, Anchorage, Alaska 99513.

###

--

Faith C. Vander Voort
Deputy Press Secretary
Department of the Interior

--

Isabel Benemelis
Senior Public Affairs Specialist
Office of Communications
U.S. Department of the Interior
Telephone: (202)208 7291
Cell: (202)384 7174
E-mail: isabel_benemelis@ios.doi.gov

--

Sara D. Boario
Assistant Regional Director External Affairs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Alaska Region
Anchorage, Alaska
907 786 3431

To: Stephen Wackowski[stephen_wackowski@ios.doi.gov]; Gregory Siekaniec[greg_siekaniec@fws.gov]; Karen Clark[karen_clark@fws.gov]; Andrea Medeiros[andrea_medeiros@fws.gov]
From: Boario, Sara
Sent: 2018-12-20T12:58:19-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Re: Proposed statement (edited)
Received: 2018-12-20T12:58:39-05:00

Steve - just making sure you're ok with this statement. I know things are going to go live soon with EIS.
thanks!

sb

On Wed, Dec 19, 2018 at 3:48 PM Boario, Sara <sara_boario@fws.gov> wrote:

Steve -

how about this?

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service was a cooperating agency with the Bureau of Land Management to develop an environmental impact statement for the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge Coastal Plain Oil and Gas Leasing Program. The Service has managed the Arctic Refuge and its resources for several decades and provided information and expertise during the development of this EIS. Although the BLM has been delegated authority to establish and administer the oil and gas program, the Service will remain responsible for management of the refuge. This includes management responsibility for polar bear, migratory birds, eagles and fish. The EIS associated with the lease sale will not authorize post-lease sale activities, such as drilling or geophysical exploration, which would undergo a separate environmental review process. An environmental assessment and proposed polar bear incidental take regulations are in development to determine whether seismic exploration of the Arctic Refuge coastal plain could begin in February 2019. We expect these to be released for public comment in the near future.

On Wed, Dec 19, 2018 at 3:28 PM Stephen Wackowski <stephen_wackowski@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Murray (Awad), Miriam L" <AwadML@state.gov>
Date: December 19, 2018 at 12:04:59 PM AKST
To: "Wackowski, Stephen" <stephen_wackowski@ios.doi.gov>

Cc: Michael Gieryic <mike.gieryic@sol.doi.gov>, "Castellanos, Gilbert" <gilbert_castellanos@fws.gov>, "Hill, John J" <hilljj@state.gov>, "Kill, Theodore P" <KillTP@state.gov>, "Creedon, Reid M" <CreedonRM@state.gov>
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: REClear: IPCB Dipnote

Thanks Steve! Here it is updated correctly.

An environmental assessment is underway to allow for possible seismic exploration of the ANWR Coastal Plain which could begin in February 2019 and conclude well in advance of any lease sale. The EIS associated with the lease sale will not authorize post-lease sale activities, such as drilling or geophysical exploration, which would undergo a separate environmental review process.

From: Wackowski, Stephen <stephen_wackowski@ios.doi.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, December 19, 2018 3:55 PM
To: Murray (Awad), Miriam L <AwadML@state.gov>
Cc: Michael Gieryic <mike.gieryic@sol.doi.gov>; Castellanos, Gilbert <gilbert_castellanos@fws.gov>; Hill, John J <hilljj@state.gov>; Kill, Theodore P <KillTP@state.gov>; Creedon, Reid M <CreedonRM@state.gov>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] RE: REClear: IPCB Dipnote

No that is incorrect.

Proposed Seismic project is currently under review as an Environmental Assessment (EA). As proposed that would start in Feb 2019.

Entirely different effort--the Lease Sale is an EIS. That EIS would not authorize any surface activity--only the holding of two lease sales.

Any subsequent exploration activity (beyond current proposed seismic project) would

require additional NEPA review (EA or EIS).

Make sense?

Steve Wackowski

Senior Adviser for Alaskan Affairs

Department of the Interior
4230 University Drive, Suite 300

Anchorage, AK 99508

907-271-5485

On Wed, Dec 19, 2018 at 3:45 PM Murray (Awad), Miriam L <AwadML@state.gov>
wrote:

Updated again:

The environmental assessment process is proposed to begin in February 2019 on the surface and will occur prior to an Environmental Impact Study. and will not include drilling or geophysical exploration associated with the post lease or sale assessment.

From: Murray (Awad), Miriam L
Sent: Wednesday, December 19, 2018 3:22 PM
To: 'Michael Gieryic' <mike.gieryic@sol.doi.gov>; Wackowski, Stephen <stephen_wackowski@ios.doi.gov>; Castellanos, Gilbert

0000012909

<gilbert_castellanos@fws.gov>

Cc: Hill, John J <hilljj@state.gov>; Kill, Theodore P <KillTP@state.gov>; Creedon, Reid M
<CreedonRM@state.gov>

Subject: REClear: IPCB Dipnote

Colleagues

Could you please clear on the last paragraph - My leadership wanted to put this addendum in layperson's terms.

Best,

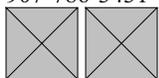
Miriam

While the Bureau of Land Management and U.S. Fish and Wildlife service are currently assessing a proposed seismic project, proposed to begin in February of 2019, in advance of the lease sale, **the lease-sale EIS will not authorize post-lease sale activity**, such as drilling or geophysical exploration, which would undergo a separate environmental review process.

The EIS will occur in two phases, a preliminary phase prior to the lease or sale of drilling rights and a second phase subsequent to the lease or sale. The first EIS phase is proposed to begin in February 2019 on the ground surface, and will not include drilling or geophysical exploration associated with the post lease or sale assessment.

--

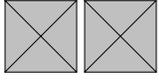
Sara D. Boario
Assistant Regional Director External Affairs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Alaska Region
Anchorage, Alaska
907 786 3431



--

Sara D. Boario

Assistant Regional Director External Affairs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Alaska Region
Anchorage, Alaska
907 786 3431



To: Andrea Medeiros[andrea_medeiros@fws.gov]
From: Siekaniec, Greg
Sent: 2018-12-20T14:43:19-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Fwd: latest version of presser
Received: 2018-12-20T14:43:57-05:00
NR Joint FWS BLM PB and Seismic EA 122018 v4.docx

Hi Andrea,

This is the reference to the video that I would like to see ahead of this being released.

greg

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

From: **Wackowski, Stephen** <stephen_wackowski@ios.doi.gov>

Date: Thu, Dec 20, 2018 at 10:35 AM

Subject: Re: latest version of presser

To: Boario, Sara <sara_boario@fws.gov>, Ellis-Wouters, Lesli <lellis@blm.gov>

Cc: Gregory Siekaniec <greg_siekaniec@fws.gov>, Karen Clark <karen_clark@fws.gov>,
Travnicek, Andrea <andrea_travnicek@ios.doi.gov>, Joseph Balash

<joseph_balash@ios.doi.gov>, Margaret Everson <Margaret_E_Everson@fws.gov>

As long as we can get a link to the BLM seismic video in the release I am good with this.

Andrea/Joe/Margaret- FYI, we decided to do a Joint FWS/BLM for seismic when it goes public.

The final doc should be working its way through your comms channels soon. Just a heads up for your awareness.

Thanks,

Steve

Steve Wackowski
Senior Adviser for Alaskan Affairs
Department of the Interior
4230 University Drive, Suite 300
Anchorage, AK 99508
907-271-5485

On Thu, Dec 20, 2018 at 2:20 PM Boario, Sara <sara_boario@fws.gov> wrote:

few more tweaks. please review.

sb

--

Sara D. Boario
Assistant Regional Director External Affairs

0000012912

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Alaska Region
Anchorage, Alaska
907 786 3431



To: Wackowski, Stephen[stephen_wackowski@ios.doi.gov]
Cc: Andrea Medeiros[andrea_medeiros@fws.gov]; Gregory Siekaniec[greg_siekaniec@fws.gov]; Karen Clark[karen_clark@fws.gov]
From: Boario, Sara
Sent: 2018-12-20T15:24:51-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Re: Proposed statement (edited)
Received: 2018-12-20T15:25:10-05:00

just small suggestions from me and greg. see below.

In 1980, through the passage of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act, the Congress set aside the Coastal Plain of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge for potential oil and gas leasing. Last year, Congress passed legislation that directed our sister agency, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to conduct two lease sales in the area. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is a cooperating agency with the BLM in developing the EIS for the lease sale.

We have proudly managed the Arctic Refuge and its resources for several decades and provided information and expertise during the development of this EIS. This includes management responsibility for polar bear, migratory birds, eagles and fish. The EIS associated with the lease sale will not authorize any post-lease sale activities, such as drilling or geophysical exploration, which will undergo a separate environmental review process.

Currently, an environmental assessment and proposed polar bear incidental take regulations are in development to determine whether seismic exploration of the Arctic Refuge coastal plain could begin in February 2019. We expect these to be released for public comment in the near future.

Thanks steve!

sb

On Thu, Dec 20, 2018 at 9:58 AM Wackowski, Stephen <stephen_wackowski@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

Sara-

My edits below. Would it be more appropriate to have this quote come from Margaret E? If you think so, I can run the traps on that.

In 1980, through the passage of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act, the Congress set aside the Coastal Plain of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge for potential oil and gas leasing. Last year, Congress executed that option and directed our sister agency, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to conduct two lease sales in the Coastal Plain. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is a cooperating agency with the BLM in developing the EIS for the lease sale.

We have proudly managed the Arctic Refuge and its resources for several decades and provided information and expertise during the development of this EIS. This includes management responsibility for polar bear, migratory birds, eagles and fish. The EIS associated with the lease sale will not authorize any post-lease sale activities, such as drilling or geophysical exploration, which will undergo a separate environmental review process.

Currently, an environmental assessment and proposed polar bear incidental take regulations are in development to determine whether seismic exploration of the Arctic Refuge coastal plain could begin in February 2019. We expect these to be released for public comment in the near future.

Steve Wackowski
Senior Adviser for Alaskan Affairs
Department of the Interior
4230 University Drive, Suite 300
Anchorage, AK 99508
907-271-5485

On Wed, Dec 19, 2018 at 7:49 PM Boario, Sara <sara_boario@fws.gov> wrote:

Steve -

how about this?

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service was a cooperating agency with the Bureau of Land Management to develop an environmental impact statement for the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge Coastal Plain Oil and Gas Leasing Program. The Service has managed the Arctic Refuge and its resources for several decades and provided information and expertise during the development of this EIS. Although the BLM has been delegated authority to establish and administer the oil and gas program, the Service will remain responsible for management of the refuge. This includes management responsibility for polar bear, migratory birds, eagles and fish. The EIS associated with the lease sale will not authorize post-lease sale activities, such as drilling or geophysical exploration, which would undergo a separate environmental review process. An environmental assessment and proposed polar bear incidental take regulations are in development to determine whether seismic exploration of the Arctic Refuge coastal plain could begin in February 2019. We expect these to be released for public comment in the near future.

On Wed, Dec 19, 2018 at 3:28 PM Stephen Wackowski <stephen_wackowski@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

To: Boario, Sara[sara_boario@fws.gov]
Cc: Gregory Siekaniec[greg_siekaniec@fws.gov]; Karen Clark[karen_clark@fws.gov]; Andrea Medeiros[andrea_medeiros@fws.gov]
From: Shire, Gavin
Sent: 2018-12-20T15:25:21-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Re: Proposed statement (edited by SW)
Received: 2018-12-20T15:25:39-05:00

I think it's too long and the first para is all background. I'd make the quote the second and third paras and have the first available as additional background.

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

On Thu, Dec 20, 2018 at 3:09 PM Boario, Sara <sara_boario@fws.gov> wrote:

any final thoughts?

sb

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

From: **Wackowski, Stephen** <stephen_wackowski@ios.doi.gov>
Date: Thu, Dec 20, 2018 at 9:58 AM
Subject: Re: Proposed statement (edited)
To: Boario, Sara <sara_boario@fws.gov>, Andrea Medeiros <andrea_medeiros@fws.gov>
Cc: Gregory Siekaniec <greg_siekaniec@fws.gov>, Karen Clark <karen_clark@fws.gov>

Sara-

My edits below. Would it be more appropriate to have this quote come from Margaret E? If you think so, I can run the traps on that.

In 1980, through the passage of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act, the Congress set aside the Coastal Plain of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge for potential oil and gas leasing. Last year, Congress executed that option and directed our sister agency, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to conduct two lease sales in the Coastal Plain. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is a cooperating agency with the BLM in developing the EIS for the lease sale.

We have proudly managed the Arctic Refuge and its resources for several decades and provided information and expertise during the development of this EIS. This includes management responsibility for polar bear, migratory birds, eagles and fish. The EIS associated with the lease sale

will not authorize any post-lease sale activities, such as drilling or geophysical exploration, which will undergo a separate environmental review process.

Currently, an environmental assessment and proposed polar bear incidental take regulations are in development to determine whether seismic exploration of the Arctic Refuge coastal plain could begin in February 2019. We expect these to be released for public comment in the near future.

Steve Wackowski
Senior Adviser for Alaskan Affairs
Department of the Interior
4230 University Drive, Suite 300
Anchorage, AK 99508
907-271-5485

On Wed, Dec 19, 2018 at 7:49 PM Boario, Sara <sara_boario@fws.gov> wrote:

Steve -

how about this?

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service was a cooperating agency with the Bureau of Land Management to develop an environmental impact statement for the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge Coastal Plain Oil and Gas Leasing Program. The Service has managed the Arctic Refuge and its resources for several decades and provided information and expertise during the development of this EIS. Although the BLM has been delegated authority to establish and administer the oil and gas program, the Service will remain responsible for management of the refuge. This includes management responsibility for polar bear, migratory birds, eagles and fish. The EIS associated with the lease sale will not authorize post-lease sale activities, such as drilling or geophysical exploration, which would undergo a separate environmental review process. An environmental assessment and proposed polar bear incidental take regulations are in development to determine whether seismic exploration of the Arctic Refuge coastal plain could begin in February 2019. We expect these to be released for public comment in the near future.

To: Gavin Shire[gavin_shire@fws.gov]; Andrea Medeiros[andrea_medeiros@fws.gov]
Cc: Gregory Siekaniec[greg_siekaniec@fws.gov]; Karen Clark[karen_clark@fws.gov]; Barbara Wainman[barbara_wainman@fws.gov]
From: Boario, Sara
Sent: 2018-12-20T17:36:44-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: version 5 of presser
Received: 2018-12-20T17:37:03-05:00
[NR Joint FWS BLM PB and Seismic EA 122018 v5.docx](#)
[Facebook Logo for Email Signature Block.png](#)
[twitter-icon Signature Block.jpg](#)

attached

sb

--

Sara D. Boario
Assistant Regional Director External Affairs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Alaska Region
Anchorage, Alaska
907 786 3431



To: Frazer, Gary[gary_frazer@fws.gov]
Cc: Gregory Siekaniec[gregory_siekaniec@fws.gov]; Karen Clark[Karen_Clark@fws.gov]; Stephen Wackowski[stephen_wackowski@ios.doi.gov]; Willens, Todd[todd_willens@ios.doi.gov]; Andrea Travnicek[andrea_travnicek@ios.doi.gov]; Colligan, Mary[mary_colligan@fws.gov]; Patrick Lemons[Patrick_Lemons@fws.gov]
From: Everson, Margaret
Sent: 2018-12-20T18:18:10-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Re: Arctic Coastal Plain ITR status
Received: 2018-12-20T18:18:28-05:00

Gary, Mary and Patrick,
Thank you for your outstanding work today.
Best,
Margaret

On Thu, Dec 20, 2018 at 6:13 PM Frazer, Gary <gary_frazer@fws.gov> wrote:

Mary and Patrick did an outstanding job on briefing OMB/OIRA this afternoon, resulting in OIRA clearing the rule a couple hours later. Andrea has signed the rule and it's going through the last stages of Departmental clearance. Expect that to conclude tomorrow morning, at which point we will deliver it to the Federal Register with a request for expedited filing and publication.

If we experience a government shutdown, though, that may delay posting and publication by the Federal Register. We'll have to figure that out tomorrow. Fingers crossed that we avoid a shutdown. -- GDF

Gary Frazer
Assistant Director -- Ecological Services
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
(202) 208-4646

To: Frazer, Gary[gary_frazer@fws.gov]
Cc: Gregory Siekaniec[gregory_siekaniec@fws.gov]; Karen Clark[Karen_Clark@fws.gov]; Stephen Wackowski[stephen_wackowski@ios.doi.gov]; Willens, Todd[todd_willens@ios.doi.gov]; Andrea Travnicek[andrea_travnicek@ios.doi.gov]; Margaret Everson[margaret_e_everson@fws.gov]; Colligan, Mary[mary_colligan@fws.gov]; Patrick Lemons[Patrick_Lemons@fws.gov]
From: Greg Siekaniec
Sent: 2018-12-20T18:25:15-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Re: Arctic Coastal Plain ITR status
Received: 2018-12-20T18:25:17-05:00

Gary,
Thank you for facilitating the OMB brief and pushing for a quick follow up and clearance.

We'll be waiting to hear how this goes forward tomorrow and I totally agree that we are hoping to avoid a shutdown.

Greg

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 20, 2018, at 2:13 PM, Frazer, Gary <gary_frazer@fws.gov> wrote:

Mary and Patrick did an outstanding job on briefing OMB/OIRA this afternoon, resulting in OIRA clearing the rule a couple hours later. Andrea has signed the rule and it's going through the last stages of Departmental clearance. Expect that to conclude tomorrow morning, at which point we will deliver it to the Federal Register with a request for expedited filing and publication.

If we experience a government shutdown, though, that may delay posting and publication by the Federal Register. We'll have to figure that out tomorrow. Fingers crossed that we avoid a shutdown. -- GDF

Gary Frazer
Assistant Director -- Ecological Services
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
(202) 208-4646

To: Mary Colligan[mary_colligan@fws.gov]
Cc: Karen Clark[karen_clark@fws.gov]
From: Greg Siekaniec
Sent: 2018-12-21T10:30:19-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Significance determination for 1018-BD62
Received: 2018-12-21T10:30:27-05:00

Thanks Mary

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 21, 2018, at 5:36 AM, Mary Colligan <mary_colligan@fws.gov> wrote:

Thought you would want to see this regarding timing.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Prigan, Sara" <sara_prigan@fws.gov>
Date: December 21, 2018 at 5:30:19 AM AKST
To: "Frazer, Gary" <gary_frazer@fws.gov>
Cc: "Wilkinson, Susan" <susan_wilkinson@fws.gov>, "Colligan, Mary" <mary_colligan@fws.gov>, Patrick Lemons <Patrick_Lemons@fws.gov>, Holly Herod <holly_herod@fws.gov>, Diane Bowen <diane_bowen@fws.gov>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Significance determination for 1018-BD62

If we are not asking for emergency publication, we do not submit a letter. We submit only the digitally signed document. PPM can submit the digitally signed document once it is emailed to us.

Thanks,

Sara Prigan

*Division of Policy, Performance, and Management Programs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
5275 Leesburg Pike
MS: BPHC; IN104E
Falls Church, VA 22041-3808
<https://www.fws.gov/pdm/>
Telephone: 703-358-2508
Cell phone/text: 301-580-6520*

On Fri, Dec 21, 2018 at 9:18 AM Frazer, Gary <gary_frazer@fws.gov> wrote:

0000012921

OK. Have Andrea's digital signature now. Just awaiting final signoff by Deputy COS. Absent an emergency justification, do you need any transmittal letter or additional action from me, or can PPM just run with the digitally signed document? -- GDF

Gary Frazer
Assistant Director -- Ecological Services
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
(202) 208-4646

On Fri, Dec 21, 2018 at 9:07 AM Wilkinson, Susan <susan_wilkinson@fws.gov> wrote:

Under the normal publication schedule, a document submitted today before 2 p.m. would go on public inspection next Thursday (December 27) and publish Friday (December 28)---except that OFR generally adds at least a day to the schedule for documents that are more than 100 pages long.

I just got this message from OFR's legal office: Given our available staff and the number of documents received this week, I'd say that schedule (absent an emergency justification) would be optimistic to unrealistic. Assuming no shut down, I recommend adding 2-3 days to estimated publication time, until about the second week in January. You might get surprised with earlier publication, but you won't get caught off guard when it's passed the 3-day mark.

I am reluctant to ask for emergency publication for this proposed rule, which has no real effect on the public (generally the primary standard that OFR takes into consideration). I hate to burn the good will that we have established with OFR by making unreasonable requests of them. That being said, I realize this is not my policy call to make.

The three trispot darter rulemaking documents, which were submitted to OFR Wednesday, have not yet been scheduled, so I know they are extremely busy right now (they generally always are at the end of the year).

On Fri, Dec 21, 2018 at 8:20 AM Frazer, Gary <gary_frazer@fws.gov> wrote:

I had the same thought. I'm 99% certain we'll be submitting to the FR today, and I think we'll be able to do that electronically with a

digital signature, but since it won't be on file today I'm wondering whether to even ask for expedited publication in light of the pending shutdown. Any advice from your shop? There's probably no harm in asking, and it's possible that a miracle will happen and a shutdown will be averted, but if we are shut down the information I saw from the OFR indicates that this rule is not going to be something they'll likely publish. -- GDF

Gary Frazer
Assistant Director -- Ecological Services
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
(202) 208-4646

On Fri, Dec 21, 2018 at 7:34 AM Wilkinson, Susan <susan_wilkinson@fws.gov> wrote:

Good morning.
What is the revised schedule for submission to OFR? I am concerned about asking for expedited handling of the document when it is over 100 pages and I'm sure that OFR is short-staffed like any other agency right now.

Thanks for your thoughts.

On Thu, Dec 20, 2018 at 6:21 PM Frazer, Gary <gary_frazer@fws.gov> wrote:

FYI. Great job.
Also, pls ensure that the final rule is included in the next forecast report to OMB.

Gary Frazer
Assistant Director -- Ecological Services
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
(202) 208-4646

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

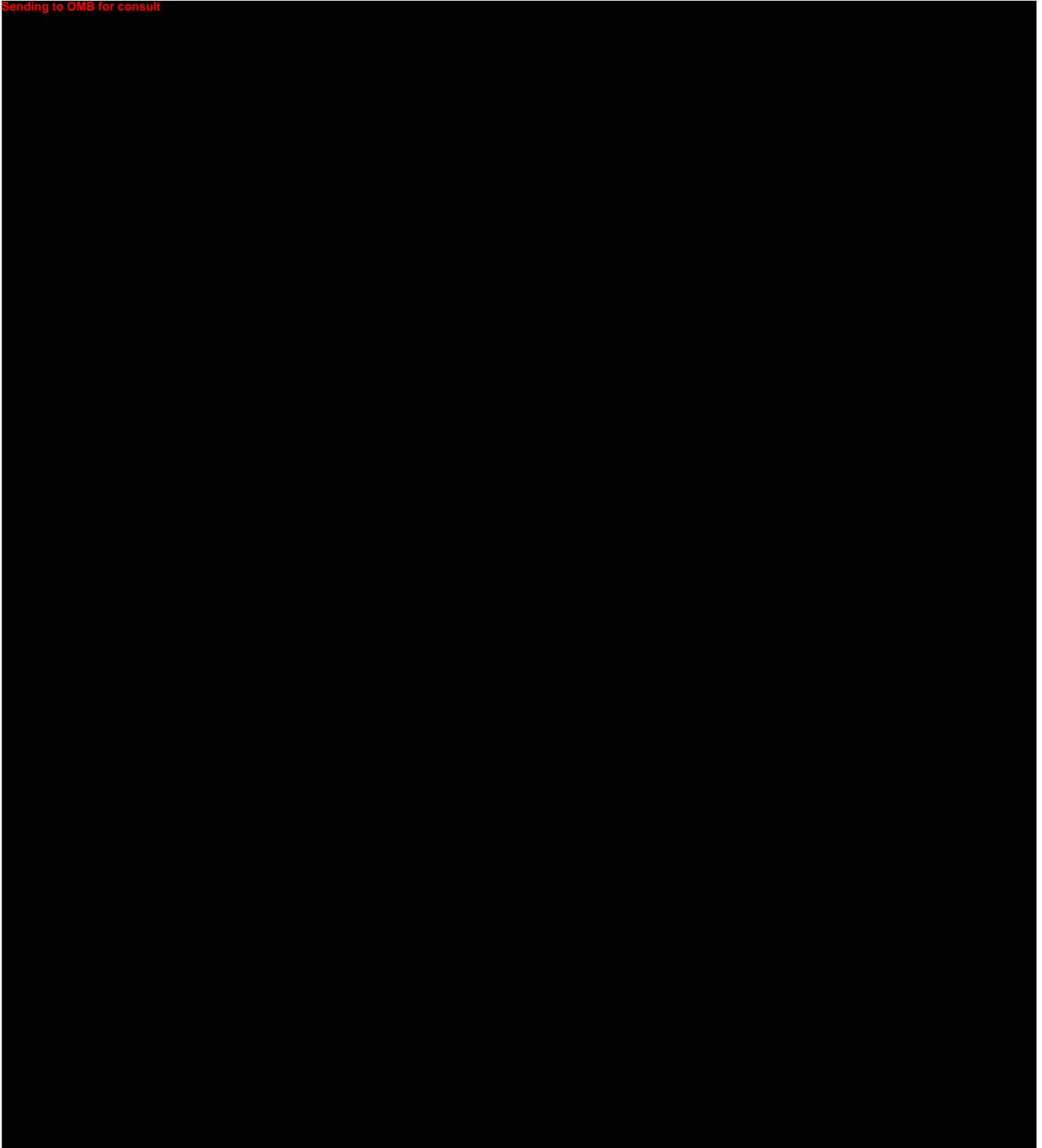
From: **Patnaik, Bivan** <bivan_patnaik@ios.doi.gov>
Date: Thu, Dec 20, 2018 at 3:31 PM
Subject: Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Significance determination for 1018-BD62
To: Gary Frazer <gary_frazer@fws.gov>

Gary,
Please see email below-OMB has determined the rule to be non-significant so it can go to the OFR.

Thanks for all your help,

B

Sending to OMB for consult



--

Bivan R. Patnaik

Deputy Director of Regulatory Affairs
Office of the Executive Secretariat and Regulatory Affairs
Department of Interior
(W) 202.208.4582
(WC) 202.684.5186

--

Susan Wilkinson
Division of Policy, Performance, and Management Programs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Headquarters

5275 Leesburg Pike, MS: BPHC
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803
703-358-2506

--

Susan Wilkinson
Division of Policy, Performance, and Management Programs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Headquarters

5275 Leesburg Pike, MS: BPHC
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803
703-358-2506

To: greg_siekaniec@fws.gov[greg_siekaniec@fws.gov];
karen_clark@fws.gov[karen_clark@fws.gov]
From: Mary Colligan
Sent: 2018-12-21T14:32:14-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Significance determination for 1018-BD62
Received: 2018-12-21T14:32:22-05:00

The saga continues-3 minutes late

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Prigan, Sara" <sara_prigan@fws.gov>
Date: December 21, 2018 at 10:22:53 AM AKST
To: "Frazer, Gary" <gary_frazer@fws.gov>
Cc: "Wilkinson, Susan" <susan_wilkinson@fws.gov>, "Colligan, Mary" <mary_colligan@fws.gov>, Patrick Lemons <Patrick_Lemons@fws.gov>, Holly Herod <holly_herod@fws.gov>, Diane Bowen <diane_bowen@fws.gov>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Significance determination for 1018-BD62

FYI -- I asked OFR legal about the submission time of this document, and they just told me this:
Yes, under our regulations it is considered as submitted the next business day. It is in our system, so you won't have to resubmit it. The schedulers are very busy and processing documents as quickly as possible. However, it is unlikely that this document will be scheduled today.

Thanks,

Sara Prigan

*Division of Policy, Performance, and Management Programs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
5275 Leesburg Pike
MS: BPHC; IN104E
Falls Church, VA 22041-3808
<https://www.fws.gov/pdm/>
Telephone: 703-358-2508
Cell phone/text: 301-580-6520*

On Fri, Dec 21, 2018 at 2:06 PM Prigan, Sara <sara_prigan@fws.gov> wrote:

I uploaded this to the Office of the Federal Register (OFR) online portal. It was accepted. The next step is for it to go to a human for review.
Please be aware -- Normally if OFR receives a document after 2 p.m., the

0000012926

document is considered as having arrived the next business day. According to my email, OFR received this at 2:03 p.m.

Thanks,

Sara Prigan

*Division of Policy, Performance, and Management Programs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
5275 Leesburg Pike
MS: BPHC; 1N104E
Falls Church, VA 22041-3808
<https://www.fws.gov/pdm/>
Telephone: 703-358-2508
Cell phone/text: 301-580-6520*

On Fri, Dec 21, 2018 at 1:57 PM Frazer, Gary <gary_frazer@fws.gov> wrote:

The attached file contains Andreas' digital signature. (I think. Please check. I couldn't tell.) It has now cleared ExecSec and is ready to submit to the Federal Register. Please advise the parties on this email when that is accomplished. Many thanks to you and, especially, Sue for your help on this particularly hot rock. -- GDF

Gary Frazer

*Assistant Director -- Ecological Services
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
(202) 208-4646*

On Fri, Dec 21, 2018 at 9:30 AM Prigan, Sara <sara_prigan@fws.gov> wrote:

If we are not asking for emergency publication, we do not submit a letter. We submit only the digitally signed document. PPM can submit the digitally signed document once it is emailed to us.

Thanks,

Sara Prigan

*Division of Policy, Performance, and Management Programs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
5275 Leesburg Pike
MS: BPHC; 1N104E
Falls Church, VA 22041-3808
<https://www.fws.gov/pdm/>
Telephone: 703-358-2508
Cell phone/text: 301-580-6520*

On Fri, Dec 21, 2018 at 9:18 AM Frazer, Gary <gary_frazer@fws.gov> wrote:

OK. Have Andrea's digital signature now. Just awaiting final signoff by

Deputy COS. Absent an emergency justification, do you need any transmittal letter or additional action from me, or can PPM just run with the digitally signed document? -- GDF

Gary Frazer
Assistant Director -- Ecological Services
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
(202) 208-4646

On Fri, Dec 21, 2018 at 9:07 AM Wilkinson, Susan <susan_wilkinson@fws.gov> wrote:

Under the normal publication schedule, a document submitted today before 2 p.m. would go on public inspection next Thursday (December 27) and publish Friday (December 28)---except that OFR generally adds at least a day to the schedule for documents that are more than 100 pages long. I just got this message from OFR's legal office: Given our available staff and the number of documents received this week, I'd say that schedule (absent an emergency justification) would be optimistic to unrealistic. Assuming no shut down, I recommend adding 2-3 days to estimated publication time, until about the second week in January. You might get surprised with earlier publication, but you won't get caught off guard when it's passed the 3-day mark.

I am reluctant to ask for emergency publication for this proposed rule, which has no real effect on the public (generally the primary standard that OFR takes into consideration). I hate to burn the good will that we have established with OFR by making unreasonable requests of them. That being said, I realize this is not my policy call to make.

The three trispot darter rulemaking documents, which were submitted to OFR Wednesday, have not yet been scheduled, so I know they are extremely busy right now (they generally always are at the end of the year).

On Fri, Dec 21, 2018 at 8:20 AM Frazer, Gary <gary_frazer@fws.gov> wrote:

I had the same thought. I'm 99% certain we'll be submitting to the FR today, and I think we'll be able to do that electronically with a digital signature, but since it won't be on file today I'm wondering whether to even ask for expedited publication in light of the pending shutdown. Any advice from your shop? There's probably no harm in asking, and it's possible that a miracle will happen and a shutdown will be averted, but if we are shut down the information I saw from the OFR indicates that this rule is not going to be something they'll likely publish. -- GDF

Gary Frazer
Assistant Director -- Ecological Services
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
(202) 208-4646

On Fri, Dec 21, 2018 at 7:34 AM Wilkinson, Susan <susan_wilkinson@fws.gov> wrote:

Good morning.
What is the revised schedule for submission to OFR? I am concerned about asking for expedited handling of the document when it is over 100 pages and I'm sure that OFR is short-staffed like any other agency right now.

Thanks for your thoughts.

On Thu, Dec 20, 2018 at 6:21 PM Frazer, Gary <gary_frazer@fws.gov> wrote:

FYI. Great job.
Also, pls ensure that the final rule is included in the next forecast report to OMB.

Gary Frazer
Assistant Director -- Ecological Services
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
(202) 208-4646

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

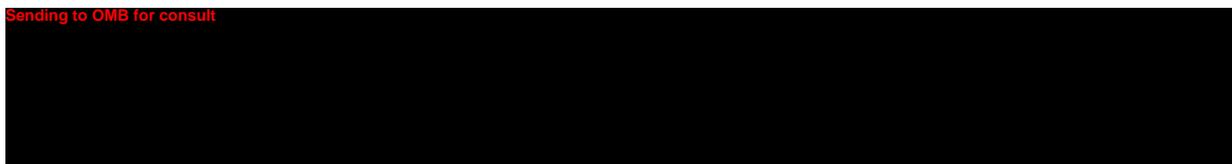
From: **Patnaik, Bivan** <bivan_patnaik@ios.doi.gov>
Date: Thu, Dec 20, 2018 at 3:31 PM
Subject: Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Significance determination for 1018-BD62
To: Gary Frazer <gary_frazer@fws.gov>

Gary,
Please see email below-OMB has determined the rule to be non-significant so it can go to the OFR.

Thanks for all your help,

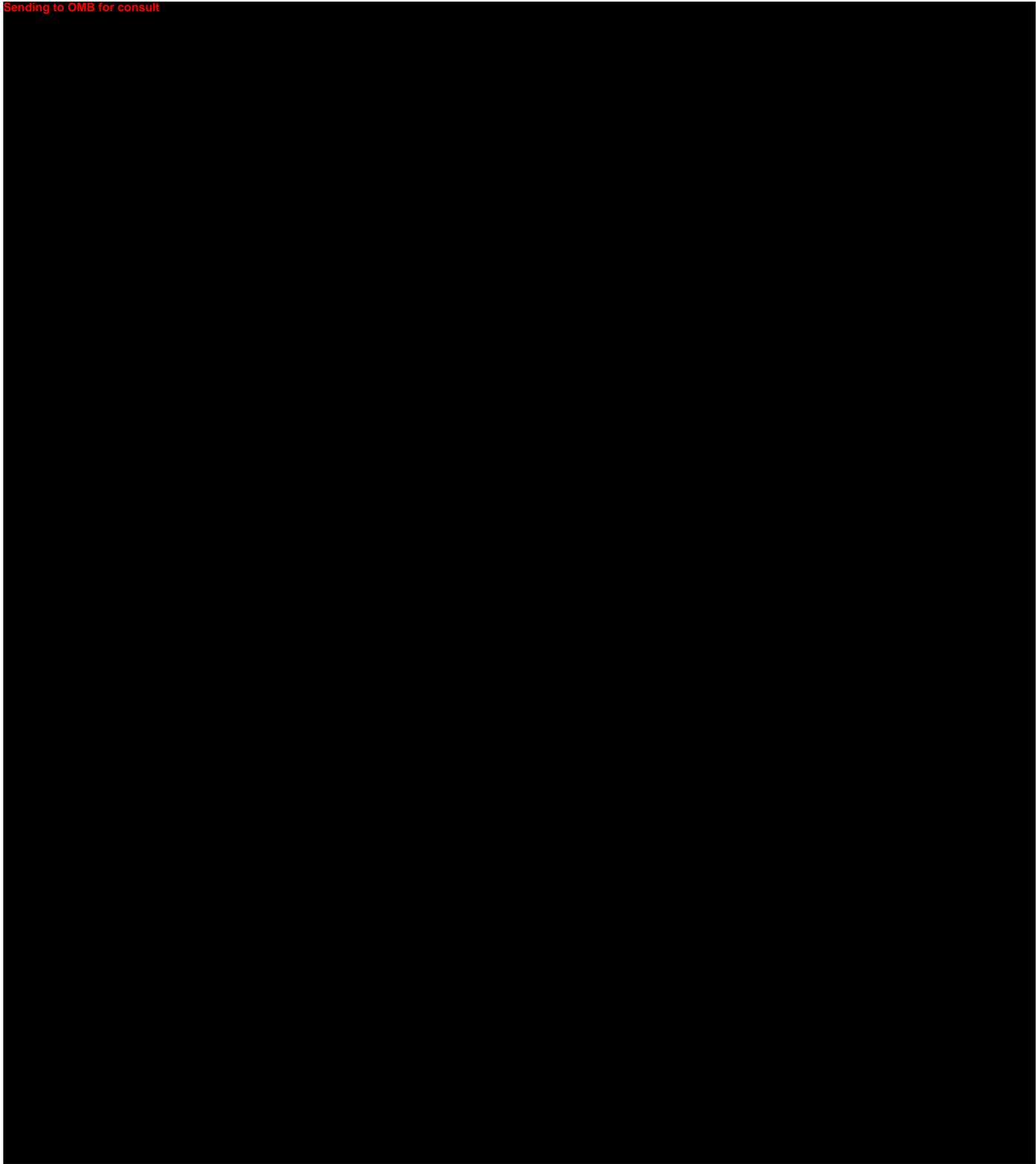
B

Sending to OMB for consult



0000012929

Sending to OMB for consult



--

Bivan R. Patnaik

Deputy Director of Regulatory Affairs

Office of the Executive Secretariat and Regulatory Affairs
Department of Interior
(W) 202.208.4582
(WC) 202.684.5186

--

Susan Wilkinson
Division of Policy, Performance, and Management Programs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Headquarters

5275 Leesburg Pike, MS: BPHC
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803
703-358-2506

--

Susan Wilkinson
Division of Policy, Performance, and Management Programs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Headquarters

5275 Leesburg Pike, MS: BPHC
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803
703-358-2506

To: Nolin, Chris[chris_nolin@fws.gov]
From: Greg Siekaniec
Sent: 2018-12-31T15:51:24-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Re: Question from OMB on reg status
Received: 2018-12-31T15:51:25-05:00

It has gone to the federal register.

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 31, 2018, at 11:12 AM, Nolin, Chris <chris_nolin@fws.gov> wrote:

Hi Greg - do you know the answer to this? Thanks!

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

From: Denise Flanagan <denise_flanagan@ios.doi.gov>
Date: Mon, Dec 31, 2018 at 3:03 PM
Subject: Question from OMB on reg status
To: Chris Nolin <chris_nolin@fws.gov>
Cc: Adrienne Moss <adrienne_moss@ios.doi.gov>

Chris,

Ben Burnett called and asked if we knew the status of the FWS incidental take for polar bears in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge regulation? He is not asking anyone to work on it during the shutdown, he was just asking if it was at Interior or if it had gone to the Federal Register.

Thanks! Denise
Denise Flanagan, CDFM
Director, Office of Budget
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C. Street NW, Room 4108
Washington DC 20240
Phone: [202-208-5309](tel:202-208-5309) (Direct Line)
Email: Denise_Flanagan@ios.doi.gov

--

Chris Nolin
Budget Officer
US Fish & Wildlife Service
703-358-2343 desk
240-305-0490 cell
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Headquarters
3W019

MS: BMO

5275 Leesburg Pike

Falls Church, VA 22041-3803

To: Greg Siekaniec[greg_siekaniec@fws.gov]
From: Nolin, Chris
Sent: 2018-12-31T15:56:03-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Re: Question from OMB on reg status
Received: 2018-12-31T15:56:15-05:00

Thanks a bunch!

On Mon, Dec 31, 2018 at 3:53 PM Greg Siekaniec <greg_siekaniec@fws.gov> wrote:

It went at 2:03 pm on the 20th or 21st. It was not received in time for publishing during the shutdown. I have checked everyday (including) today and it is not out yet.

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 31, 2018, at 11:12 AM, Nolin, Chris <chris_nolin@fws.gov> wrote:

Hi Greg - do you know the answer to this? Thanks!

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

From: Denise Flanagan <denise_flanagan@ios.doi.gov>
Date: Mon, Dec 31, 2018 at 3:03 PM
Subject: Question from OMB on reg status
To: Chris Nolin <chris_nolin@fws.gov>
Cc: Adrienne Moss <adrienne_moss@ios.doi.gov>

Chris,

Ben Burnett called and asked if we knew the status of the FWS incidental take for polar bears in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge regulation? He is not asking anyone to work on it during the shutdown, he was just asking if it was at Interior or if it had gone to the Federal Register.

Thanks! Denise
Denise Flanagan, CDFM
Director, Office of Budget
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C. Street NW, Room 4108
Washington DC 20240
Phone: [202-208-5309](tel:202-208-5309) (Direct Line)
Email: Denise_Flanagan@ios.doi.gov

--

Chris Nolin
Budget Officer

US Fish & Wildlife Service
703-358-2343 desk
240-305-0490 cell
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Headquarters
3W019

MS: BMO
5275 Leesburg Pike

Falls Church, VA 22041-3803

--

Chris Nolin
Budget Officer
US Fish & Wildlife Service
703-358-2343 desk
240-305-0490 cell
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Headquarters
3W019

MS: BMO
5275 Leesburg Pike

Falls Church, VA 22041-3803

To: Jim Kurth[jim_kurth@fws.gov]
From: Greg Siekaniec
Sent: 2019-01-03T09:13:36-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Re: Question
Received: 2019-01-03T09:13:43-05:00

The ITR did not publish so there is no need at this time to conduct a review of public comment and prepare response. I'll need to ask about the leasing EIS and get back with you this morning.

Greg

Sent from my iPhone

> On Jan 3, 2019, at 3:56 AM, Jim Kurth <jim_kurth@fws.gov> wrote:
>
> We are looking at the potential to bring back some employees using
> carryover funds to accomplish critical work on the SOI priorities
> (blue sheets)). How many staff would it take to continue our work
> our Arctic Refuge seismic and lease sale review?
>
> Need your best estimate ASAP. Thanks.
>
> Sent from my iPhone

To: socheata_lor@fws.gov[socheata_lor@fws.gov];
mary_colligan@fws.gov[mary_colligan@fws.gov]
From: Greg Siekaniec
Sent: 2019-01-03T10:02:42-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Fwd: Question
Received: 2019-01-03T10:02:52-05:00

Good Morning,
Please note the following message. We can discuss this morning when we are in the office. I do not know if Mary will be monitoring email but I can reach out via phone later.

Greg

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Jim Kurth <jim_kurth@fws.gov>
Date: January 3, 2019 at 3:56:05 AM AKST
To: Gregory Siekaniec <greg_siekaniec@fws.gov>
Subject: Question

We are looking at the potential to bring back some employees using carryover funds to accomplish critical work on the SOI priorities (blue sheets)). How many staff would it take to continue our work our Arctic Refuge seismic and lease sale review?

Need your best estimate ASAP. Thanks.

Sent from my iPhone

To: Jim Kurth[jim_kurth@fws.gov]
From: Siekaniec, Greg
Sent: 2019-01-07T14:15:00-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Re: contingency plan update
Received: 2019-01-07T14:15:42-05:00

The names are: 1) Steve Berendzen, Arctic NWR Manager
2) Wendy Loya, Arctic EIS Coordinator
3) Sarah Conn, Field Office Supervisor, Ecological Service
4) Josh Rose, Ecologist, Fish and Wildlife Service

Greg

On Mon, Jan 7, 2019 at 8:44 AM Jim Kurth <jim_kurth@fws.gov> wrote:

Ok. We are shooting to have all names by 2:00 pm eastern time.

Sent from my iPhone

> On Jan 7, 2019, at 12:01 PM, Greg Siekaniec <greg_siekaniec@fws.gov> wrote:

>

> I will this morning. I need to check with Steve Barendzen on who best
> to attend in addition to him. It may be me as I attended the last
> round but with limited attendees an expert in Caribou or Polar Bear
> may be more important.

>

> Sent from my iPhone

>

>> On Jan 7, 2019, at 7:24 AM, Jim Kurth <jim_kurth@fws.gov> wrote:

>>

>> Do you have a name? We could add to the plan so you can activate when
>> appropriate.

>>

>> Sent from my iPhone

>>

>>> On Jan 7, 2019, at 10:54 AM, Greg Siekaniec <greg_siekaniec@fws.gov> wrote:

>>>

>>> Yes, and if BLM continues to plan their public meetings the week of
>>> the 14th and 21 we would add one more.

>>>

>>> Sent from my iPhone

>>>

>>>> On Jan 7, 2019, at 5:58 AM, Kurth, Jim <jim_kurth@fws.gov> wrote:

>>>>

>>>> We are finalizing the plan update, I was asked to confirm changes.

>>>>

>>>> You will plan to activate three employees in an exempted status to continue review of

1002 leasing EIS: Wendy Loya, Steve Berendzen, and Sarah Conbn. Correct?

To: Greg Siekaniec[greg_siekaniec@fws.gov]
From: Thorson, Robyn
Sent: 2019-01-09T18:13:39-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Re: Tonyua Robinson....checking in
Received: 2019-01-09T18:13:58-05:00

Good to hear from you. Take care,
Robyn

Robyn Thorson
Regional Director, Pacific Region One
Idaho, Oregon, Washington, Hawaii & Pacific Islands
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
911 NE 11th Avenue
Portland, OR 97232
503.231.6119

On Wed, Jan 9, 2019 at 2:29 PM Greg Siekaniec <greg_siekaniec@fws.gov> wrote:

Robyn,

Thank you for the note. I will reach out to Tonyua. I plan to send a note to RDT members as well near the end of the week.

Yes, we did get a reprieve from the 30 day 1002 comment window and the ITR for polar bear did not publish so the seismic may very well have to forgo a year. If we started tomorrow and it published we would be pushing April for start and not sure the economics work out with that late of a start and what could be accomplished. Given that having a lease sale prior to seismic data could put the revenue projection in jeopardy it may push the lease sale towards a more realistic timeline; perhaps?

I hope the call for funding agencies with an agreement to work on the border issue within a stand alone department can come together.

Best to you, I'm hearing rumor of change coming to the Interior Regional Director idea.

Greg

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 9, 2019, at 12:40 PM, Thorson, Robyn <robyn_thorson@fws.gov> wrote:

Mary and I are "touching base" with R1 leaders at their home phone numbers, just to stay close during the shutdown. Tonyua is covering as our R1 ODIWM rep for now (until Inez hires another person or makes different assignments), so she's on our RDT list. I had not planned to reach out to her because she's not proximate to us down here (it's kind of an attenuated RDT role)...but I COULD reach out (and would do so gladly....it just seems a bit awkward or odd). I welcome any advice about that.

And in other news: very glad that Lisa Murkowski is calling for appropriations bills (no surprise, given number of Feds in AK and also the volume of Federal business). And I saw that the Ds on the Hill want a longer comment period about ANWR. Never a dull moment for you in Alaska!

Take care. Nothing urgent: if you have advice re: outreach to Tonyua let me know (and I would need personal contact info if contacting her is in order).

Eventually this will be over.
Robyn.

Robyn Thorson
Regional Director, Pacific Region One
Idaho, Oregon, Washington, Hawaii & Pacific Islands
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
911 NE 11th Avenue
Portland, OR 97232
503.231.6119

To: Siekaniec, Greg[greg_siekaniec@fws.gov]
From: Margaret Everson
Sent: 2019-01-25T18:23:53-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] ITR petition release
Received: 2019-01-25T18:23:54-05:00

Thank you. I will move this request forward.

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 25, 2019, at 6:15 PM, Siekaniec, Greg <greg_siekaniec@fws.gov> wrote:

Margaret,
Please find the following email message from SAE Exploration requesting a delay in the publishing of the ITR for the 1002 Coastal Plain Area of Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.
Regards,

Greg

----- Forwarded message -----
From: **Jeff Hastings** <jhastings@saexploration.com>
Date: Fri, Jan 25, 2019 at 1:31 PM
Subject: [EXTERNAL] ITR petition release
To: greg_siekaniec@fws.gov <greg_siekaniec@fws.gov>

Good Afternoon Greg. SAExploration is requesting a delay in release of our ITR application until we have a chance to discuss with the USFW staff some of the program issues that have resulted during the government shutdown. These include a delay in the program start date timing as well as mitigation requirements such as the aerial FLIR survey requirement, as an example. We will be in Anchorage on Wednesday the 30th of January and would like to meet with the USFW staff that afternoon if possible. We therefore request that the petition is not released to the public until that meeting occurs and we have chance to discuss the program timing as well as the mitigations that have been proposed.

Regards

Jeff Hastings

Jeff Hastings
Chairman & Chief Executive Officer

SAExploration
Safety. Acquisition. Experience.

1160 Dairy Ashford, Suite 160

Houston, Texas 77079

Mobile: 1-907-229-0150

1-250-300-0403

jhastings@saexploration.com

Life Saving Rules

<image001.jpg>

NOTICE OF CONFIDENTIALITY

This material is intended solely for the use of the individual or the entity to which it is addressed and may contain information that is privileged, proprietary, confidential and exempt from disclosure. If you are not the intended recipient, you are notified that any dissemination, distribution or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please notify the sender immediately and destroy this material accordingly

0000012943

To: Steve Berendzen[steve_berendzen@fws.gov]; Greg Siekaniec[greg_siekaniec@fws.gov]
From: Wackowski, Stephen
Sent: 2019-01-25T19:07:08-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Leasing EIS: public meeting scheduling
Received: 2019-01-25T19:07:19-05:00
DEIS mtg calendar OPT 3.docx

tentative schedule, not public yet but for your planning purposes

Steve Wackowski
Senior Adviser for Alaskan Affairs
Department of the Interior
4230 University Drive, Suite 300
Anchorage, AK 99508
907-271-5485

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

From: **Joseph Balash** <joseph_balash@ios.doi.gov>
Date: Fri, Jan 25, 2019 at 6:58 PM
Subject: Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Leasing EIS: public meeting scheduling
To: <stephen_wackowski@ios.doi.gov>, MacGregor Kate <katharine_macgregor@ios.doi.gov>

Joe Balash
Assistant Secretary
Land and Minerals Management
Department of the Interior

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Murphy, Ted" <t75murph@blm.gov>
Date: January 25, 2019 at 6:01:35 PM EST
To: Joseph Balash <joseph_balash@ios.doi.gov>
Subject: Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Leasing EIS: public meeting scheduling

We are going to try and lock these in unless you have any concerns.

--

0000012944

Ted A Murphy
Alaska-Acting State Director
907-271-5076

To: Greg Siekaniec[greg_siekaniec@fws.gov]
From: Wackowski, Stephen
Sent: 2019-01-28T18:55:31-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: UPDATE: 1002 hearing schedule
Received: 2019-01-28T18:55:48-05:00
DEIS mtg calendar OPT 3.docx

See attached. This should get announced tomorrow along with a comment deadline extension to 13 March.

Steve Wackowski
Senior Adviser for Alaskan Affairs
Department of the Interior
4230 University Drive, Suite 300
Anchorage, AK 99508
907-271-5485

To: Mary Colligan[mary_colligan@fws.gov]
Cc: Karen Clark[karen_clark@fws.gov]
From: Siekaniec, Greg
Sent: 2019-01-28T18:59:30-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Fwd: ITR Litigation
Received: 2019-01-28T19:00:13-05:00

(b) (5) ACP

Mary,
This is the issue Steve wants to sit down and discuss.
greg

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

From: **Wackowski, Stephen** <stephen_wackowski@ios.doi.gov>
Date: Mon, Jan 28, 2019 at 2:55 PM
Subject: Fwd: ITR Litigation
To: Greg Siekaniec <greg_siekaniec@fws.gov>

Steve Wackowski
Senior Adviser for Alaskan Affairs
Department of the Interior
4230 University Drive, Suite 300
Anchorage, AK 99508
907-271-5485

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

From: **Wackowski, Stephen** <stephen_wackowski@ios.doi.gov>
Date: Mon, Jan 28, 2019 at 4:03 PM
Subject: Fwd: ITR Litigation
To: Margaret Everson <Margaret_E_Everson@fws.gov>
Cc: Travnicek, Andrea <andrea_travnicek@ios.doi.gov>

Margaret- I am going to be in DC 12-16 Feb. See below. I'd like to meet to discuss this issue below as (b) (5) DPP

Best, Steve

Steve Wackowski
Senior Adviser for Alaskan Affairs
Department of the Interior
4230 University Drive, Suite 300

0000012947

Anchorage, AK 99508
907-271-5485

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

From: **Kindred, Joshua** <joshua.kindred@sol.doi.gov>
Date: Thu, Jan 17, 2019 at 12:44 PM
Subject: ITR Litigation
To: Stephen Wackowski <stephen_wackowski@ios.doi.gov>

Steve,

(b) (5) ACP
[Redacted]

[Redacted] Please let me
know if you have any questions of concerns.

JMK

*Joshua M. Kindred
Regional Solicitor
U.S. Dept. of the Interior
Alaska Region
(907) 271-4118
joshua.kindred@sol.doi.gov*

To: jim_kurth@fws.gov[jim_kurth@fws.gov]
From: Greg Siekaniec
Sent: 2019-01-29T14:46:00-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Arctic Refuge ITR for seismic
Received: 2019-01-29T14:46:06-05:00

Have you heard if the Department was successful in withdrawing the the proposed ITR from the federal register?

Thanks,

Greg

Sent from my iPhone

To: Margaret Everson[margaret_e_everson@fws.gov]
From: Siekaniec, Greg
Sent: 2019-01-29T20:07:49-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Re: ITR
Received: 2019-01-29T20:08:26-05:00

Thank you

On Tue, Jan 29, 2019 at 4:05 PM Margaret Everson <margaret_e_everson@fws.gov> wrote:

FYI
Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Andrea Travnicek <andrea_travnicek@ios.doi.gov>
Date: January 29, 2019 at 7:33:04 PM EST
To: Margaret Everson <margaret_e_everson@fws.gov>
Subject: Re: ITR

Yes, a delay in the publishing was confirmed yesterday.

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 29, 2019, at 4:43 PM, Margaret Everson <margaret_e_everson@fws.gov> wrote:

Do you know if this was confirmed? If not I can have Melissa follow up tomorrow morning. Thank you!

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Greg Siekaniec <greg_siekaniec@fws.gov>
Date: January 29, 2019 at 4:27:50 PM EST
To: margaret_e_everson@fws.gov
Subject: ITR

Hi Margaret,

Thanks for the discussion on the process of public and community engagement for the 1002 coastal plain EIS.

0000012950

I have not heard whether we were successful in pulling the ITR back from the federal register.

Our polar bear team has a meeting with SAE tomorrow and this will likely come up as it is the premise for us getting together per the email from Jeff.

Any news you can share is appreciated.

Thank you,

Greg

Sent from my iPhone

To: Mary Colligan[mary_colligan@fws.gov]
Cc: Karen Clark[karen_clark@fws.gov]
From: Siekaniec, Greg
Sent: 2019-01-29T20:10:01-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Fwd: ITR
Received: 2019-01-29T20:10:43-05:00

The ITR has been delayed per Andrea. Not sure why delayed vs withdrawn since it will take a new ITR for changes in we go to next year/winter vs. 2019. Might just be how it is stated rather than how I interpret delay.
greg

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

From: Margaret Everson <margaret_e_everson@fws.gov>
Date: Tue, Jan 29, 2019 at 4:05 PM
Subject: Fwd: ITR
To: <greg_siekaniec@fws.gov>

FYI
Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Andrea Travnicek <andrea_travnicek@ios.doi.gov>
Date: January 29, 2019 at 7:33:04 PM EST
To: Margaret Everson <margaret_e_everson@fws.gov>
Subject: Re: ITR

Yes, a delay in the publishing was confirmed yesterday.

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 29, 2019, at 4:43 PM, Margaret Everson <margaret_e_everson@fws.gov> wrote:

Do you know if this was confirmed? If not I can have Melissa follow up tomorrow morning. Thank you!

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Greg Siekaniec <greg_siekaniec@fws.gov>
Date: January 29, 2019 at 4:27:50 PM EST
To: margaret_e_everson@fws.gov
Subject: ITR

Hi Margaret,

Thanks for the discussion on the process of public and community engagement for the 1002 coastal plain EIS.

I have not heard whether we were successful in pulling the ITR back from the federal register.

Our polar bear team has a meeting with SAE tomorrow and this will likely come up as it is the premise for us getting together per the email from Jeff.

Any news you can share is appreciated.

Thank you,

Greg

Sent from my iPhone

To: Karen Clark[karen_clark@fws.gov]; Gregory Siekaniec[greg_siekaniec@fws.gov]
From: Boario, Sara
Sent: 2019-01-31T18:00:52-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Fwd: [EXTERNAL] ITR for ANWR seismic activity ...
Received: 2019-01-31T18:01:09-05:00

Just touched base with Karen about this exchange with a local reporter, and I need to touch base with you too Greg.

sb

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

From: **Boario, Sara** <sara_boario@fws.gov>
Date: Thu, Jan 31, 2019 at 1:51 PM
Subject: Fwd: [EXTERNAL] ITR for ANWR seismic activity ...
To: Barbara Wainman <barbara_wainman@fws.gov>

Q/A with ADN reporter

On Tue, Jan 29, 2019 at 2:43 PM Medeiros, Andrea <andrea_medeiros@fws.gov> wrote:

1) When is the ITR expected to be released for public notice? Why has it not been released yet?

We submitted the proposed incidental take regulations and supporting analysis to the Federal Register for publication just prior to the partial government shutdown. The regulations did not publish due to the shutdown.

2) Thirty days of public comment will follow the release of the draft ITR, correct? After that comment period ends, how quickly can a decision be issued, per the law?

We planned a 30-day public comment period for the proposed incidental take regulations. Once a public comment period ends, we take the time that is needed to evaluate the submitted comments and address them as appropriate.

3) Was USFWS working on the ITR during the shutdown, and if so, what did the work involve, and how many people were involved?

No work was done on the ITR during the partial government shutdown.

4) Given the limited winter season, does it appear or is it certain that seismic activity will not happen in ANWR this winter?

Unknown at this point.

Andrea Medeiros
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service,
Alaska Region, External Affairs **tEAm**

0000012954

Public Affairs Specialist
(907) 786-3695
Mobile: (907) 227-4788

Connect with us:



On Tue, Jan 29, 2019 at 11:38 AM Alex Demarban <alex@adn.com> wrote:

Hi,

I have a few questions related to the ITR for ANWR seismic activity.

- 1) When is the ITR expected to be released for public notice? Why has it not been released yet?
- 2) Thirty days of public comment will follow the release of the draft ITR, correct? After that comment period ends, how quickly can a decision be issued, per the law?
- 3) Was USFWS working on the ITR during the shutdown, and if so, what did the work involve, and how many people were involved?
- 4) Given the limited winter season, does it appear or is it certain that seismic activity will not happen in ANWR this winter?

Thanks,

--

Alex DeMarban
Reporter
Anchorage Daily News
Desk: (907) 257-4317
Cell: (907) 229-0395

--

Alex DeMarban
Reporter
Anchorage Daily News
Desk: (907) 257-4317
Cell: (907) 229-0395

--

Alex DeMarban
Reporter
Anchorage Daily News
Desk: (907) 257-4317
Cell: (907) 229-0395

--

Sara D. Boario
Assistant Regional Director External Affairs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Alaska Region
Anchorage, Alaska
907 786 3431



--

Sara D. Boario
Assistant Regional Director External Affairs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Alaska Region
Anchorage, Alaska
907 786 3431



To: Gregory Siekaniec[greg_siekaniec@fws.gov]; Karen Clark[karen_clark@fws.gov]
Cc: Patrick Lemons[patrick_lemons@fws.gov]
From: Colligan, Mary
Sent: 2019-02-01T02:58:12-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: SAE Status
Received: 2019-02-01T02:58:28-05:00
[SAE Revision January 2019.docx](#)

Greg and Karen I have attached a summary Patrick and I put together after our discussion with SAE today. Once we had a better understanding of what they are proposing to do this year, we worked with Ryan and Kim to consider the relationship of their current proposal to what is in the draft proposed ITR. The attached summarizes our analysis.

The bottom line is that what is currently proposed is not consistent with what is in the draft proposed ITR. The most problematic aspect is estimated lethal or Level A takes of cubs as a result of conducting the 2 Aerial Infrared Den Detection Surveys in March, rather than Dec and Jan as is required in the draft proposed ITR.

We look forward to talking about this tomorrow

--

Mary Colligan
Assistant Regional Director
Fisheries and Ecological Services
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Alaska Region
1011 E. Tudor Road, MS-361
Anchorage, AK 99503
907-786-3505
cell: 907-223-5945

To: Gregory Siekaniec[greg_siekaniec@fws.gov]; Karen Clark[karen_clark@fws.gov]
Cc: Patrick Lemons[patrick_lemons@fws.gov]
From: Colligan, Mary
Sent: 2019-02-01T15:17:54-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Updated Briefing Papers
Received: 2019-02-01T15:18:10-05:00
[SAE Revision January 2019.docx](#)
[Proposed Cook Inlet ITR for Hilcorp and AK LNG.docx](#)

Greg and Karen I have attached updated briefing papers for Cook Inlet and SAE. I put an issue summary at the top to help provide focus.

Thanks

--

Mary Colligan
Assistant Regional Director
Fisheries and Ecological Services
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Alaska Region
1011 E. Tudor Road, MS-361
Anchorage, AK 99503
907-786-3505
cell: 907-223-5945

To: Shire, Gavin[gavin_shire@fws.gov]; Russell Newell[russell_newell@ios.doi.gov]
Cc: Boario, Sara[sara_boario@fws.gov]; Barbara Wainman[barbara_wainman@fws.gov]; Gregory Siekaniec[greg_siekaniec@fws.gov]; Karen Clark[karen_clark@fws.gov]; Berendzen, Steve[steve_berendzen@fws.gov]; Lor, Socheata[socheata_lor@fws.gov]; Andrea Medeiros[andrea_medeiros@fws.gov]
From: Stephen Wackowski
Sent: 2019-02-04T18:10:10-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Re: Time Sensitive: reporter follow-up questions on Arctic issues
Received: 2019-02-04T18:10:17-05:00

Thanks for the heads up on this. Adam is here in Fairbanks today at our Coastal Plain public meeting.

Please let keep flagging for us any requests that have to do with the Arctic refuge.

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 4, 2019, at 1:48 PM, Shire, Gavin <gavin_shire@fws.gov> wrote:

Are these additional questions for background or the record? If the latter, I don't see an issue with responding factually to the extent we are able, but I will need to run this up the chain to OCO. Barbara/Steve, will you run this by Margaret, Andrea T, etc.?

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

On Mon, Feb 4, 2019 at 4:29 PM Boario, Sara <sara_boario@fws.gov> wrote:

Steve, Gavin -

Early last week, Steve Berendzen, manager at Arctic NWR, received an inquiry from a reporter named Adam Federman with [Type Investigations](#) re: Arctic infrastructure projects. He passed that along to us, and Andrea coordinated the response below with Gavin and DOI-EA. He now has additional requests and questions - bottom of this email - and will be attending some of the public meetings over the next week+ (didn't specify which ones). I know you (Steve W) and Joe have been handling much of the press on these issues and wanted you to have a heads up.

Please let us know how you would like to proceed and/or what additional information you require. -- Sara

Question: I'm doing some background reporting on oil and gas exploration in ANWR and was hoping to get some more information on the \$4 million FWS grant the refuge received last year. Do you have any material on how this money was allocated and which projects are currently moving forward? Is there a list? Or documentation?

Answer: Steve let me know you were looking for some information regarding a one-time appropriation of \$4 million we received for some Arctic National Wildlife Refuge capitol improvement and deferred maintenance projects. The Service is planning to utilize these appropriations to complete improvements to and construction of seasonal housing and storage facilities in Kaktovik, Galbraith Lake, and Arctic Village to support refuge management activities. To date, approximately \$100,000 has been obligated for planning and design.

Additional Questions:

Steve, thanks for getting back to me. I'll be at some of the public meetings so maybe we can find time to talk then.

- If there's any material regarding the infrastructure projects or scientific research ventures that I'd be able to look at that would be great.
- Could you provide any additional details on the \$100,000 allocation? Specifically who was contracted to do the planning and design? And is there a list of the construction projects that the refuge plans to undertake with this funding? Also is there any sort of timeline dictating when the money has to be spent?
- would you also be able to tell me what the refuge's annual operating budget is and perhaps what it has been in recent past years? Many thanks.
- My main interest is to better understand the key priorities for refuge research moving forward and to get a sense of what the refuge objectives are in terms of stewarding the natural landscape.

--

Sara D. Boario
Assistant Regional Director External Affairs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Alaska Region
Anchorage, Alaska
907 786 3431



To: Stephen Wackowski[stephen_wackowski@ios.doi.gov]
Cc: Barbara Wainman[barbara_wainman@fws.gov]; Shire, Gavin[gavin_shire@fws.gov]; Gregory Siekaniec[greg_siekaniec@fws.gov]; Karen Clark[karen_clark@fws.gov]; Berendzen, Steve[steve_berendzen@fws.gov]; Lor, Socheata[socheata_lor@fws.gov]; Andrea Medeiros[andrea_medeiros@fws.gov]
From: Boario, Sara
Sent: 2019-02-06T15:19:17-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Re: Time Sensitive: reporter follow-up questions on Arctic issues
Received: 2019-02-06T15:19:29-05:00
[Facebook Logo for Email Signature Block.png](#)
[twitter-icon Signature Block.jpg](#)

Thanks Steve -

Just wondering if you or Joe answered his questions on the planned research or infrastructure projects?

If not, we have the following suggested reply to his research question. Please advise. thank you. we're also working on answer to infrastructure in the event that still needs to be answered.

sb

Question: If there's any material regarding the scientific research ventures? My main interest is to better understand the key priorities for refuge research moving forward and to get a sense of what the refuge objectives are in terms of stewarding the natural landscape.

We are working to identify the information needed for decision making as we move through various steps in the oil and gas development process — planning, seismic exploration, leasing, and development. In 2018 we invested approximately 1 million dollars in priority research, including: collaborating with USGS to better understand polar bear populations and denning on the refuge; ensuring our understanding of caribou calving is up to date; and, improving our understanding of how snow depth and density varies across the refuge to minimize impacts to vegetation, permafrost, and winter fish and wildlife habitat associated with potential exploration and development. We are currently in the planning process for identifying priority research for 2019.

On Mon, Feb 4, 2019 at 10:12 PM Stephen Wackowski <stephen_wackowski@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

Before we go lighting up the approval chain I would check with the reporter to see if he already got his questions answered today. Our SMEs spoke with everyone on technical aspects of the EIS and the refuge, and we had balash and myself available for any policy questions.

He is also going to Kaktovik tomorrow to cover our hearing and if he has follow ups it will be easy for him to find us.

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 4, 2019, at 4:20 PM, Barbara Wainman <barbara_wainman@fws.gov> wrote:

Yes I will forward it to Margaret tonight. But. Or likely to have an answer until tomorrow earliest.

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 4, 2019, at 5:48 PM, Shire, Gavin <gavin_shire@fws.gov> wrote:

Are these additional questions for background or the record? If the latter, I don't see an issue with responding factually to the extent we are able, but I will need to run this up the chain to OCO.
Barbara/Steve, will you run this by Margaret, Andrea T, etc.?
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

On Mon, Feb 4, 2019 at 4:29 PM Boario, Sara <sara_boario@fws.gov> wrote:

Steve, Gavin -

Early last week, Steve Berendzen, manager at Arctic NWR, received an inquiry from a reporter named Adam Federman with Type Investigations re: Arctic infrastructure projects. He passed that along to us, and Andrea coordinated the response below with Gavin and DOI-EA. He now has additional requests and questions - bottom of this email - and will be attending some of the public meetings over the next week+ (didn't specify which ones). I know you (Steve W) and Joe have been handling much of the press on these issues and wanted you to have a heads up. Please let us know how you would like to proceed and/or what additional information you require. --
Sara

Question: I'm doing some background reporting on oil and gas exploration in ANWR and was hoping to get some more information on the \$4 million FWS grant the refuge received last year. Do you have any material on how this money was allocated and which projects are currently moving forward? Is there a list? Or documentation?

Answer: Steve let me know you were looking for some information regarding a one-time appropriation of \$4 million we received for some Arctic National Wildlife Refuge capitol improvement and deferred maintenance projects. The Service is planning to utilize these appropriations to complete improvements to and construction of seasonal housing and storage facilities in Kaktovik, Galbraith Lake, and Arctic Village to support refuge management activities. To date, approximately \$100,000 has been obligated for planning and design.

Additional Questions:

Steve, thanks for getting back to me. I'll be at some of the public meetings so maybe we can find time to talk then.

- If there's any material regarding the infrastructure projects or scientific research ventures that I'd be able to look at that would be great.
- Could you provide any additional details on the \$100,000 allocation? Specifically who was contracted to do the planning and design? And is there a list of the construction projects that the refuge plans to undertake with this funding? Also is there any sort of timeline dictating when the money has to be spent?
- would you also be able to tell me what the refuge's annual operating budget is and perhaps what it has been in recent past years? Many thanks.
- My main interest is to better understand the key priorities for refuge research moving forward and to get a sense of what the refuge objectives are in terms of stewarding the natural landscape.

--

Sara D. Boario
Assistant Regional Director External Affairs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Alaska Region
Anchorage, Alaska

907 786 3431



--

Sara D. Boario
Assistant Regional Director External Affairs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Alaska Region
Anchorage, Alaska
907 786 3431



To: Greg Siekaniec[greg_siekaniec@fws.gov]
From: Wainman, Barbara
Sent: 2019-02-07T11:55:37-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Coastal plain seismic
Received: 2019-02-07T11:55:56-05:00

HAHA no I actually thought it was Steve he is getting on my last good nerve and I am going to discuss this with Margaret and have been discussing with Sara B. If he wants to be the media relations person then he needs to do it all. If not he needs to let us do our job and we can clear things with him but we need to be the conduit to all press on this or no press on this. I like that start of your bio keep working on it and do I make it in the story as your driver because then it ends that we drove off a cliff.....

Barbara W. Wainman
Assistant Director, External Affairs
US Fish and Wildlife Service
(202) 208 5256 (office)
(571) 471 4159 (cell)

On Thu, Feb 7, 2019 at 11:34 AM Greg Siekaniec <greg_siekaniec@fws.gov> wrote:

Good Morning Barbra,
I bet you were all heightened up thinking it was me.... I was in Kenai yesterday. I believe you have now learned via the report it was our special assistant to the Secretary here in AK.
When you were asked in jest to give your bio on a recent call, to me it would start with "it was a dark and stormy night".

Best to you,

Greg

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 7, 2019, at 5:23 AM, Barbara Wainman <barbara_wainman@fws.gov> wrote:

And who was the official that announced that.

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 7, 2019, at 9:08 AM, Shire, Gavin <gavin_shire@fws.gov> wrote:

What is the latest and what do we tell reporters?
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

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

From: **Margie Hobson** <mhobson@eenews.net>
Date: Thu, Feb 7, 2019 at 7:19 AM
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Coastal plain seismic
To: gavin_shire@fws.gov <gavin_shire@fws.gov>

Hi Gavin,

Can you confirm that seismic surveys will not be taking place in ANWR's coastal plain this winter?

A person who attended BLM's meeting last night on the 1002 area EIS said an Interior official announced that news. But I'm trying to verify.

Thanks!
Margie Hobson
E&E News

To: Greg Siekaniec[greg_siekaniec@fws.gov]
From: Steve Berendzen
Sent: 2019-02-07T12:14:15-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Coastal plain seismic
Received: 2019-02-07T12:14:22-05:00

Thanks, Greg - Wackowski said there'd be no seismic then he backed off saying there'd been no application for a permit. He & Joe also interviewed with Adam Federman & pulled me into it to explain the infrastructure funding & facility needs. I tried to keep my comments to a minimum. This was in Kaktovik

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 7, 2019, at 5:53 AM, Greg Siekaniec <greg_siekaniec@fws.gov> wrote:

Steve,
Please see the following. Do you know who announced there will be no seismic this winter?

Thanks, I trust you meetings are going well.

Greg

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Shire, Gavin" <gavin_shire@fws.gov>
Date: February 7, 2019 at 5:08:24 AM AKST
To: Gregory Siekaniec <greg_siekaniec@fws.gov>, "Wackowski, Stephen" <stephen_wackowski@ios.doi.gov>, Sara Boario <sara_boario@fws.gov>, Andrea Medeiros <andrea_medeiros@fws.gov>, Barbara Wainman <barbara_wainman@fws.gov>, Russell Newell <russell_newell@ios.doi.gov>, "Bockmier, John" <john_bockmier@ios.doi.gov>
Subject: Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Coastal plain seismic

What is the latest and what do we tell reporters?
G

Gavin Shire
Chief of Public Affairs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
MS: EA

0000012967

5275 Leesburg Pike
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803
703-358-2649 (o)
703-346-9123 (c)
gavin_shire@fws.gov

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

From: **Margie Hobson** <mhobson@eenews.net>
Date: Thu, Feb 7, 2019 at 7:19 AM
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Coastal plain seismic
To: gavin_shire@fws.gov <gavin_shire@fws.gov>

Hi Gavin,

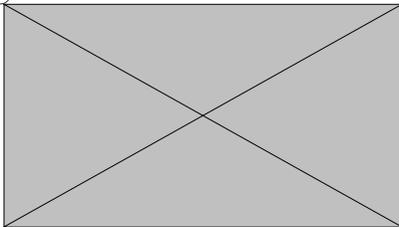
Can you confirm that seismic surveys will not be taking place in ANWR's coastal plain this winter?

A person who attended BLM's meeting last night on the 1002 area EIS said an Interior official announced that news. But I'm trying to verify.

Thanks!
Margie Hobson
E&E News

To: Medeiros, Andrea[andrea_medeiros@fws.gov]
Cc: Barbara Wainman[barbara_wainman@fws.gov]; Shire, Gavin[gavin_shire@fws.gov]; Gregory Siekaniec[greg_siekaniec@fws.gov]; Wackowski, Stephen[stephen_wackowski@ios.doi.gov]; Sara Boario[sara_boario@fws.gov]; Bockmier, John[john_bockmier@ios.doi.gov]
From: Newell, Russell
Sent: 2019-02-07T12:25:59-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Coastal plain seismic
Received: 2019-02-07T12:26:16-05:00

thank you.
Russell Newell
Deputy Director of Communications
U.S. Department of the Interior
(202) 208 6232
@Interior



On Thu, Feb 7, 2019 at 12:20 PM Medeiros, Andrea <andrea_medeiros@fws.gov> wrote:

Here is the story that ran on Alaska Public Radio Network:
<https://www.alaskapublic.org/2019/02/06/interior-no-3-d-seismic-exploration-in-arctic-national-wildlife-refuge-this-winter/>

In the story Steve Wackowski is said to have made the announcement at the public meeting in Kaktovik. Joe Balash is also referenced.

Andrea Medeiros
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service,
Alaska Region, External Affairs **tEAm**
Public Affairs Specialist
(907) 786-3695
Mobile: (907) 227-4788

Connect with us:



On Thu, Feb 7, 2019 at 5:23 AM Barbara Wainman <barbara_wainman@fws.gov> wrote:

And who was the official that announced that.

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 7, 2019, at 9:08 AM, Shire, Gavin <gavin_shire@fws.gov> wrote:

What is the latest and what do we tell reporters?
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

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

From: **Margie Hobson** <mhobson@eenews.net>
Date: Thu, Feb 7, 2019 at 7:19 AM
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Coastal plain seismic
To: gavin_shire@fws.gov <gavin_shire@fws.gov>

Hi Gavin,

Can you confirm that seismic surveys will not be taking place in ANWR's coastal plain this winter?

A person who attended BLM's meeting last night on the 1002 area EIS said an Interior official announced that news. But I'm trying to verify.

Thanks!
Margie Hobson
E&E News

To: Gregory Siekaniec[greg_siekaniec@fws.gov]; Karen Clark[karen_clark@fws.gov]
Cc: Andrea Medeiros[andrea_medeiros@fws.gov]; Howard, Ameer[amee_howard@fws.gov]
From: Boario, Sara
Sent: 2019-02-07T13:43:10-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Fwd: [EXTERNAL] ANWR/seismic confirmation?
Received: 2019-02-07T13:43:22-05:00

just an FYI - barbara just told me on the phone that this is not the answer she was looking for/enough clarity and she is going to continue to work on getting a process in place. stay tuned.

sb

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

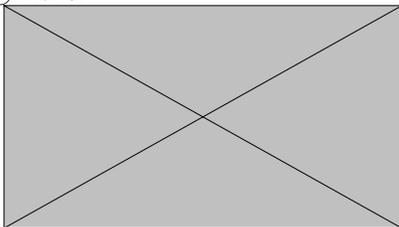
From: Newell, Russell <russell_newell@ios.doi.gov>
Date: Thu, Feb 7, 2019 at 9:28 AM
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] ANWR/seismic confirmation?
To: Boario, Sara <sara_boario@fws.gov>
Cc: Stephen Wackowski <stephen_wackowski@ios.doi.gov>, Faith Vander Voort <faith_vandervoort@ios.doi.gov>, Margaret Everson <margaret_e_everson@fws.gov>, Gavin Shire <gavin_shire@fws.gov>, Barbara Wainman <barbara_wainman@fws.gov>, Gregory Siekaniec <greg_siekaniec@fws.gov>, Karen Clark <karen_clark@fws.gov>

Faith is the appropriate spokesperson. Please also cc interior_press box on any e-mails for our awareness.

thank you,

Russell

Russell Newell
Deputy Director of Communications
U.S. Department of the Interior
(202) 208 6232
@Interior



On Thu, Feb 7, 2019 at 1:24 PM Boario, Sara <sara_boario@fws.gov> wrote:

Thanks Steve. I totally appreciate the need for a departmental spokesperson on these matters as it involves both fws/blm - could someone please clarify for us who

that person/those authorized people are, and the process for routing our press inquiries (to make sure they get to the right spokesperson(s) and we all know what the final message being delivered to the media is)? We have a few outstanding inquiries and we've helped draft responses, but we're not sure who who is ultimately closing the loop on each of them. We'd also like to make sure we're tracking all the final responses/messages.

Thank you, I appreciate the additional clarity!

Sara

On Thu, Feb 7, 2019 at 8:42 AM Stephen Wackowski <stephen_wackowski@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

Sending to OS for consult



Thanks,

Steve

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 7, 2019, at 7:44 AM, Rigler, Tara <trigler@blm.gov> wrote:

Thank you, Steve.

Hello Andrea and Margaret,

Do you have the statement ready?

Many thanks,

Tara

On Thu, Feb 7, 2019 at 10:58 AM Stephen Wackowski <stephen_wackowski@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 7, 2019, at 4:17 AM, Rigler, Tara <trigler@blm.gov> wrote:

+ Casey and Billy.

On Thu, Feb 7, 2019 at 8:15 AM Rigler, Tara <trigler@blm.gov> wrote:

Good Morning Joe, Steve, Ted and Lesli,
Please see the query from the NYT below. Can we confirm?

Many thanks,
Tara

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

From: **Fountain, Henry** <fountain@nytimes.com>
Date: Thu, Feb 7, 2019 at 6:12 AM
Subject: [EXTERNAL] ANWR/seismic confirmation?
To: <Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov>, <trigler@blm.gov>, Vander Voort, Faith
<faith_vandervoort@ios.doi.gov>

Hi,
I'm following up on the report that Steve Wackowski announced in Kaktovic yesterday that there would be no seismic work in the 1002 this year. Can you confirm? What's the status of SAExploration's application, and of the EA and the incidental take permit?

Please let me know ASAP. Thanks!

Henry Fountain
Climate reporter, [The New York Times](#)
212.556.3930 (o) 914.584.0371 fountain@nytimes.com
[Twitter](#) [Facebook](#) [Instagram](#)

Author, The Great Quake: How the Biggest Earthquake in North America Changed Our Understanding
of the Planet

--

Sara D. Boario
Assistant Regional Director External Affairs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Alaska Region
Anchorage, Alaska
907 786 3431



--

Sara D. Boario
Assistant Regional Director External Affairs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Alaska Region
Anchorage, Alaska
907 786 3431



To: Newell, Russell[russell_newell@ios.doi.gov]
Cc: Barbara Wainman[barbara_wainman@fws.gov]; Boario, Sara[sara_boario@fws.gov]; Gavin Shire[gavin_shire@fws.gov]; Gregory Siekaniec[greg_siekaniec@fws.gov]; Karen Clark[karen_clark@fws.gov]; Margaret Everson[margaret_e_everson@fws.gov]; Stephen Wackowski[stephen_wackowski@ios.doi.gov]
From: Vander Voort, Faith
Sent: 2019-02-07T13:49:17-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] ANWR/seismic confirmation?
Received: 2019-02-07T13:49:36-05:00

Just received the following statement from Melissa - standing by for Steve's input.

On Thu, Feb 7, 2019 at 1:46 PM Vander Voort, Faith <faith_vandervoort@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

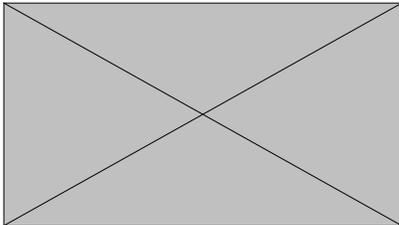
All - I am receiving inquiries as well and would like to know the status of the draft statement ASAP. Thank you.

On Thu, Feb 7, 2019 at 1:28 PM Newell, Russell <russell_newell@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

Faith is the appropriate spokesperson. Please also cc interior_press box on any e-mails for our awareness.
thank you,

Russell

Russell Newell
Deputy Director of Communications
U.S. Department of the Interior
(202) 208 6232
@Interior



On Thu, Feb 7, 2019 at 1:24 PM Boario, Sara <sara_boario@fws.gov> wrote:

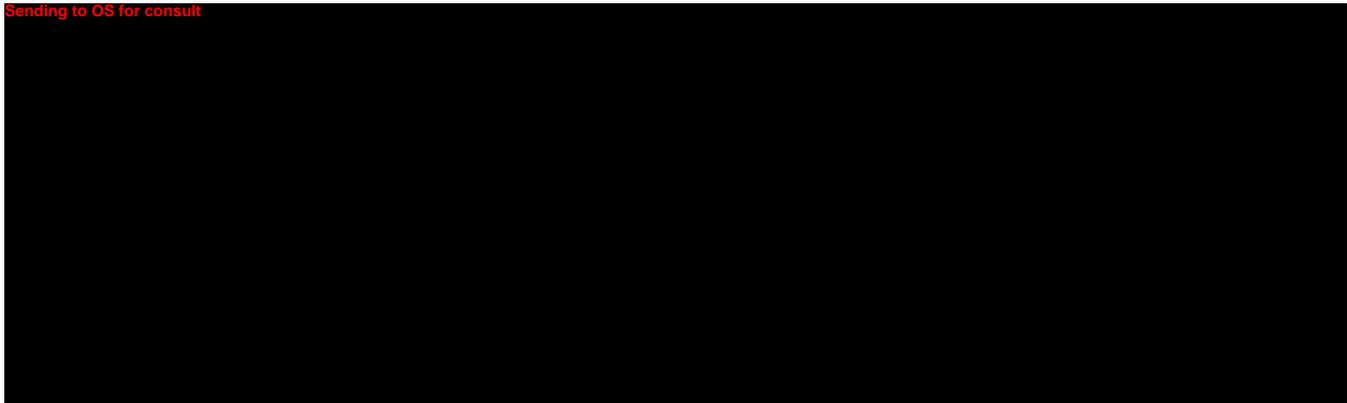
Thanks Steve. I totally appreciate the need for a departmental spokesperson on these matters as it involves both fws/blm - could someone please clarify for us who that person/those authorized people are, and the process for routing our press inquiries (to make sure they get to the right spokesperson(s) and we all know what the final message being delivered to the media is)? We have a few outstanding inquiries and we've helped draft responses, but we're not sure who who is ultimately closing the loop on each of them. We'd also like to make sure we're tracking all the final responses/messages.

Thank you, I appreciate the additional clarity!

Sara

On Thu, Feb 7, 2019 at 8:42 AM Stephen Wackowski <stephen_wackowski@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

Sending to OS for consult



Thanks,

Steve

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 7, 2019, at 7:44 AM, Rigler, Tara <trigler@blm.gov> wrote:

Thank you, Steve.

Hello Andrea and Margaret,

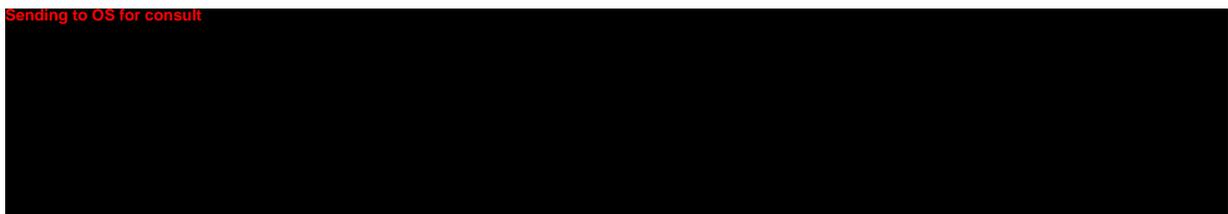
Do you have the statement ready?

Many thanks,

Tara

On Thu, Feb 7, 2019 at 10:58 AM Stephen Wackowski <stephen_wackowski@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

Sending to OS for consult



Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 7, 2019, at 4:17 AM, Rigler, Tara <trigler@blm.gov> wrote:

+ Casey and Billy.

On Thu, Feb 7, 2019 at 8:15 AM Rigler, Tara <trigler@blm.gov> wrote:

Good Morning Joe, Steve, Ted and Lesli,
Please see the query from the NYT below. Can we confirm?

Many thanks,
Tara

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

From: **Fountain, Henry** <fountain@nytimes.com>

Date: Thu, Feb 7, 2019 at 6:12 AM

Subject: [EXTERNAL] ANWR/seismic confirmation?

To: <Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov>, <trigler@blm.gov>, Vander Voort, Faith
<faith_vandervoort@ios.doi.gov>

Hi,

I'm following up on the report that Steve Wackowski announced in Kaktovic yesterday that there would be no seismic work in the 1002 this year. Can you confirm? What's the status of SAExploration's application, and of the EA and the incidental take permit?

Please let me know ASAP. Thanks!

Henry Fountain

Climate reporter, [The New York Times](#)

212.556.3930 (o) 914.584.0371 fountain@nytimes.com

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

Author, [The Great Quake](#): How the Biggest Earthquake in North America Changed Our Understanding of the Planet

--

Sara D. Boario

Assistant Regional Director External Affairs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Alaska Region
Anchorage, Alaska
907 786 3431



--

Faith C. Vander Voort
Deputy Press Secretary
Department of the Interior

--

Faith C. Vander Voort
Deputy Press Secretary
Department of the Interior

To: Wainman, Barbara[barbara_wainman@fws.gov]
Cc: Beaumont, Melissa[melissa_beaumont@fws.gov]; Martin Kodis[martin_kodis@fws.gov]; Charisa Morris[charisa_morris@fws.gov]
From: Greg Siekaniec
Sent: 2019-02-08T14:01:30-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Re: Alaska updates; due today at 3:30
Received: 2019-02-08T14:01:39-05:00

I have looped in Sara

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 8, 2019, at 8:49 AM, Wainman, Barbara <barbara_wainman@fws.gov> wrote:

I would reach out to Sara Boario in AK too she works for Greg in EA

Barbara W. Wainman
Assistant Director, External Affairs
US Fish and Wildlife Service
(202) 208 5256 (office)
(571) 471 4159 (cell)

On Fri, Feb 8, 2019 at 12:47 PM Beaumont, Melissa <melissa_beaumont@fws.gov> wrote:

I'm guessing she's looking for bullets on different issues that are important to the state, so I'm sure that would be one of them that should be included. I thought Marty's team might have had something put together on issues important to relevant states like Alaska? I thought I remembered seeing it somewhere.

On Fri, Feb 8, 2019 at 12:36 PM Wainman, Barbara <barbara_wainman@fws.gov> wrote:

“The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service co-administers the Endangered Species Act and Marine Mammal Protection Act. We work collaboratively with companies, Alaska Native tribes and corporations, and the state to conserve the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge and to ensure that wildlife impacts incidental to resource exploration and extraction activities are minimized and appropriately permitted.

SAE has informed us they will not be conducting seismic exploration in

the 1002 area this winter. We are in discussions with SAE to determine the potential for seismic activity next winter. Once their proposal is finalized, we will determine how to move forward with incidental take regulations. Any proposed incidental take regulations would provide opportunity for public comment.

Responsible oil and gas exploration in the Arctic is a priority for this administration and we are working expeditiously to process applications that ensure the continued conservation of this ecologically unique and diverse area.”

Here is what has gone to DOI Communications re: the current state of play in the Arctic is this what this is about and does this help?

Barbara W. Wainman
Assistant Director, External Affairs
US Fish and Wildlife Service
(202) 208 5256 (office)
(571) 471 4159 (cell)

On Fri, Feb 8, 2019 at 11:41 AM Melissa Beaumont <melissa_beaumont@fws.gov> wrote:

Good morning,
Maureen is requesting talking points to prepare for a call with the governor of Alaska by 3:30 today. I'm not sure if this is something we might already have put together since I know Marty had a bunch of issue papers for congressional issues. And please let me know if there are other folks I should forward this request to.

I know it's a quick turnaround, but your help is much appreciated!

Thanks,
Melissa

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Foster, Maureen" <maureen_foster@ios.doi.gov>
Date: February 8, 2019 at 11:13:23 AM EST
To: Christine Powell <chris_powell@nps.gov>, Charles Laudner <charles_laudner@nps.gov>, Melissa Beaumont <melissa_beaumont@fws.gov>

Cc: Ryan Hambleton <ryan_hambleton@ios.doi.gov>, Aurelia Skipwith
<aurelia_skipwith@ios.doi.gov>, Andrea Travnicek
<andrea_travnicek@ios.doi.gov>

Subject: Alaska updates; due today at 3:30

In preparation for a call with the governor, we need an update on Alaska issues.
These can be short paragraphs or bullet points on the important/pressing issues.

I don't have a due date yet but it will be today. So let's shoot for 3:30 today please. Send to ASFWP and we will compile.

Let me know if you have any questions. Sorry if this is a second request.

Thanks.

Maureen

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

--

Melissa Beaumont
Advisor, Office of the Director, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
Office: 202-208-4545
Desk: 202-208-4299

To: Greg Siekaniec[greg_siekaniec@fws.gov]; Karen Clark[karen_clark@fws.gov]
From: Howard, Amee
Sent: 2019-02-08T15:23:09-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Urgent Review - Updated AK Briefing Paper for Secretary meeting with Gov. Dunleavy
Received: 2019-02-08T15:23:28-05:00
02.08.19 Briefing Paper - Alaska Region draft ARH SB.docx

Hi Greg and Karen,

Here is the updated BP requested by the Department to prepare for the a meeting with Gov. Dunleavy. Please review. I tried to meet their 11:30 (3:30p EST) deadline, but it is cutting it very close. Apologies.

Let me know your edits/concerns/etc. I will then update it and send it on to the POC at the Department with cc's to all the HQ folks. Sara reviewed just prior to her 11:00am meeting.

Thanks so much!

Amee

--

Amee Howard

Congressional and State Liaison

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Anchorage, Alaska

Office: (907)786-3509

Mobile: (907)229-8575

To: melissa_beaumont@fws.gov[melissa_beaumont@fws.gov]
Cc: Greg Siekaniec[greg_siekaniec@fws.gov]; Karen Clark[karen_clark@fws.gov]; Sara Boario[sara_boario@fws.gov]
From: Howard, Amee
Sent: 2019-02-08T15:44:03-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Updated Alaska Region BP for meeting with Gov. Dunleavy
Received: 2019-02-08T15:44:23-05:00
[02.08.19 Briefing Paper - Alaska Region.docx](#)

Hi Melissa,
Please see the attached BP. Let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks so much!
Amee

--

Amee Howard

Congressional and State Liaison
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
Anchorage, Alaska
Office: (907)786-3509
Mobile: (907)229-8575

To: Karen Clark[karen_clark@fws.gov]; Boario, Sara[sara_boario@fws.gov]; Lor, Socheata[socheata_lor@fws.gov]
From: Siekaniec, Greg
Sent: 2019-02-11T11:57:12-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Arctic Refuge EIS comments
Received: 2019-02-11T11:58:07-05:00
Stuart Smith Comments on Draft EIS for Coastal Plain Oil and Gas Leasing program 2019 01 11.pdf

FYI - looks to be an interesting analysis of recreation impacts.
greg

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

From: stu@truenorthgis.net <stu@truenorthgis.net>
Date: Sun, Feb 10, 2019 at 2:01 PM
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Arctic Refuge EIS comments
To: <greg_siekaniec@fws.gov>, <steve_berendzen@fws.gov>, <wendy_loya@fws.gov>

Hello Greg, Steve, and Wendy.

My name is Stuart Smith, and I recently provided comments to the BLM regarding the Coastal Plain oil and gas leasing EIS. My comments involved the extensive use of GIS visibility analysis to determine the extent and severity of the visual impacts that oil and gas development would have on the area's aesthetic, wilderness, and recreational values. The DEIS failed to include such analysis.

I am sending you this letter to ensure that my analyses are brought to your attention since management of the Arctic Refuge falls under USFWS purview. Additionally, I want to make sure that my results are available to inform any comments that USFWS may have regarding the DEIS.

Attached is my comment letter, which also includes links to the source data and GIS output resulting from my analyses. Please feel free to use the letter and linked resources in any way you feel useful. Additionally, please feel free to contact me with any questions or comments you may have.

Best regards,

Stu Smith
(360) 951-5131
stu@truenorthgis.net

To: Karen Clark[karen_clark@fws.gov]
From: Siekaniec, Greg
Sent: 2019-02-11T11:58:02-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Fwd: Analytical approach to ITRs
Received: 2019-02-11T11:58:41-05:00

FYI - I plan to provide this to Margaret for her conversation with Steve W this week.
greg

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

From: **Colligan, Mary** <mary_colligan@fws.gov>
Date: Sun, Feb 10, 2019 at 7:03 PM
Subject: Re: Analytical approach to ITRs
To: Greg Siekaniec <greg_siekaniec@fws.gov>

Yes, sorry guess I missed that acronym. Incidental Take Statement, as included in ESA Biological Opinions.

On Sun, Feb 10, 2019 at 4:58 PM Greg Siekaniec <greg_siekaniec@fws.gov> wrote:

Thank you Mary. This reads well and explains our perspective clearly in my opinion. Only question I have is ITS... incidental take statement?
Thanks,

Greg

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 9, 2019, at 6:50 PM, Colligan, Mary <mary_colligan@fws.gov> wrote:

Greg Attached please find some thoughts in response to Steve Wackowski's comments on the approach we used in our recent 1002 draft proposed ITRs.

Please let me know if you have any questions

--

Mary Colligan
Assistant Regional Director
Fisheries and Ecological Services
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Alaska Region
1011 E. Tudor Road, MS-361
Anchorage, AK 99503
907-786-3505
cell: 907-223-5945

<Analytical approach used in ITRs in Response to SW.docx>

--

Mary Colligan
Assistant Regional Director
Fisheries and Ecological Services
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Alaska Region
1011 E. Tudor Road, MS-361
Anchorage, AK 99503
907-786-3505
cell: 907-223-5945

To: Karen Clark[karen_clark@fws.gov]
From: Siekaniec, Greg
Sent: 2019-02-11T11:58:55-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Fwd: Analytical approach to ITRs
Received: 2019-02-11T11:59:39-05:00
Analytical approach used in ITRs in Response to SW.docx

sorry, this was not attached to the last email.
greg

----- Forwarded message -----
From: **Colligan, Mary** <mary_colligan@fws.gov>
Date: Sat, Feb 9, 2019 at 6:50 PM
Subject: Analytical approach to ITRs
To: Gregory Siekaniec <greg_siekaniec@fws.gov>
Cc: Patrick Lemons <patrick_lemons@fws.gov>

Greg Attached please find some thoughts in response to Steve Wackowski's comments on the approach we used in our recent 1002 draft proposed ITRs.

Please let me know if you have any questions

--

Mary Colligan
Assistant Regional Director
Fisheries and Ecological Services
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Alaska Region
1011 E. Tudor Road, MS-361
Anchorage, AK 99503
907-786-3505
cell: 907-223-5945

To: Margaret Everson[margaret_e_everson@fws.gov]
From: Siekaniec, Greg
Sent: 2019-02-11T14:59:26-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Some Alaska Region discussion on ITRs
Received: 2019-02-11T15:00:10-05:00
[Analytical approach used in ITRs \(2\).docx](#)

Margaret,
Per our discussion of last week, and Steve Wakowski asking to meet with you regarding the development of ITRs, I asked our team to give me their perspective so I could share it with you.

I'm attaching this to ensure it gets to you ahead of your likely meeting with Steve.

Regards,

Greg

To: Greg Siekaniec[greg_siekaniec@fws.gov]
Cc: Sara Boario[sara_boario@fws.gov]; Stephen Wackowski[stephen_wackowski@ios.doi.gov]; alex_hinson@ios.doi.gov[alex_hinson@ios.doi.gov]; gavin_shire@fws.gov[gavin_shire@fws.gov]
From: Vander Voort, Faith
Sent: 2019-02-12T12:02:18-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] New direction on ANWR seismic? Please help!
Received: 2019-02-12T12:02:38-05:00

All,

We are going to have FWS handle these from here on out. Please send draft responses to Steve and I before sending - thank you.

Faith

On Tue, Feb 12, 2019 at 11:55 AM Greg Siekaniec <greg_siekaniec@fws.gov> wrote:

Steve,
I have not been contacted by applicant and requested our Alaska team to notify me immediately if there is an inquiry.

Greg

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 12, 2019, at 8:49 AM, Stephen Wackowski <stephen_wackowski@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

Before we say anything we need to check with FWS to see if the applicant has in fact asked for a project this season.

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 12, 2019, at 7:45 AM, Faith Vander Voort <faith_vandervoort@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

Steve,
Please fill us in on what you concluded after your meeting yesterday. Thank you.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Margie Hobson <mhobson@eenews.net>

0000012989

Date: February 12, 2019 at 11:42:54 AM EST

To: "Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov" <Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] New direction on ANWR seismic? Please help!

Dear Interior Media office,

Last week, the Interior Department media said that SAExploration had agreed to change the beginning date on the company's seismic exploration permit request to reflect a Dec. 2019 beginning date in the coastal plain of the Arctic refuge. That message followed Steve Wackowski's announcement at the Kaktovik, Alaska, meeting that seismic would be postponed til next winter.

Now the Alaska press is reporting some changes emerged from the Anchorage meeting on the coastal plain. Several outlets are running stories stating that SAExploration wants to begin limited seismic this winter. And Joe Balash has cracked the door open for seismic this winter.

Can you clarify this?! Please help!!!!

Many thanks for any help you can provide!

best regards,

Margie

Margaret Kriz Hobson

E&E News Alaska Reporter

mhobson@eenews.net

703-749-3025 (home office)

0000012990

E&E NEWS

122 C Street NW 7th Floor Washington, DC 20001

www.eenews.net | [@EENewsUpdates](https://twitter.com/EENewsUpdates)

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

--

Faith C. Vander Voort
Deputy Press Secretary
Department of the Interior

To: Greg Siekaniec[greg_siekaniec@fws.gov]
Cc: Colligan, Mary[mary_colligan@fws.gov]; Karen Clark[karen_clark@fws.gov]
From: Lemons, Patrick
Sent: 2019-02-12T12:26:26-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Re: SAE
Received: 2019-02-12T12:26:43-05:00

Thanks for the update. This certainly makes sense given the news yesterday. Mary and I spoke with Forrest Burkholder of SAE two Fridays ago and specifically told him that reworking the ITR to have a start date of April 19th was not viable given the time it would take to do so. Anyway, appreciate you passing that message on for us and if we hear anything from this end, we'll let you know.

Patrick

On Mon, Feb 11, 2019 at 11:28 PM Greg Siekaniec <greg_siekaniec@fws.gov> wrote:

Steve visited today prior to the 1002 public meeting and noted that SAE is considering asking for an ITR for after April 18 this year that also includes the next two winters. He thought that I may receive a request from Jeff requesting the consideration. I indicated that I do not see a path to completing the ITR within the window of time we have available given the Hillcorp/AKLNG ITR we jamming on to complete.

They are operating on the idea that if they wait until after the 18th of April the level A take goes away, or nearly so, and they are back to level B for the remainder of the spring. I indicated to Steve that for us to rewrite the ITR with this years plan and recalculate their proposal based on what would be left for the next two years doesn't have a chance from March 12 onward with internal reviews, publishing with public comment window, review of comments, and then a final... it seems the thinking is that we could add the April portion and keep the agreed to schedule in the ITR we were ready to publish; thus, no need to revise. I did not agree that this had merit or possibility. Also, the EA and permit would be required.

Should you hear anything from SAE please let me know before any conversations happen other than cursory contacts. This just doesn't seem to have an ending even with announcing the end by Steve last week. That's likely what has fired this up again.

Greg
Sent from my iPhone

--

Patrick Lemons, Ph.D.
Chief, Marine Mammals Management

0000012992

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
1011 East Tudor Road
Anchorage, AK 99503
Work: 907-786-3668
Cell: 907-717-6787
Fax: 907-786-3816
e-mail: patrick_lemons@fws.gov

To: Lucille Frerich[lucille_frerich@fws.gov]
Cc: Sara Boario[sara_boario@fws.gov]; Howard, Ameer[amee_howard@fws.gov]; Greg Siekaniec[greg_siekaniec@fws.gov]
From: Clark, Karen
Sent: 2019-02-12T19:16:25-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Re: Revised Language for BP
Received: 2019-02-12T19:17:04-05:00
[02.12.19 Arctic NWR Briefing Paper Gov to Gov Consultation v.4.0.docx](#)

Final Version. Please load into DTS and send an email with the DTS #.

Thanks! Karen

Karen P. Clark
Deputy Regional Director
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service- Alaska Region
1011 E Tudor Rd, MS 374
Anchorage, AK 99503
karen_clark@fws.gov
907.786.3542 office
907.786.3493 direct
907.786.3306 fax

To: Greg Siekaniec[greg_siekaniec@fws.gov]
Cc: Karen Clark[karen_clark@fws.gov]; Patrick Lemons[patrick_lemons@fws.gov]
From: Colligan, Mary
Sent: 2019-02-13T20:26:22-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] SAE ITR Application
Received: 2019-02-13T20:26:41-05:00
Responses to SAE - 190213.docx

Greg The email was getting kind of clunky, so Patrick and I have inserted responses/answers in the attached. We are happy to communicate this back to Jeff if you want us to do so. The blue text in the attached is ours the black is their incoming. Thanks

On Wed, Feb 13, 2019 at 9:16 AM Greg Siekaniec <greg_siekaniec@fws.gov> wrote:

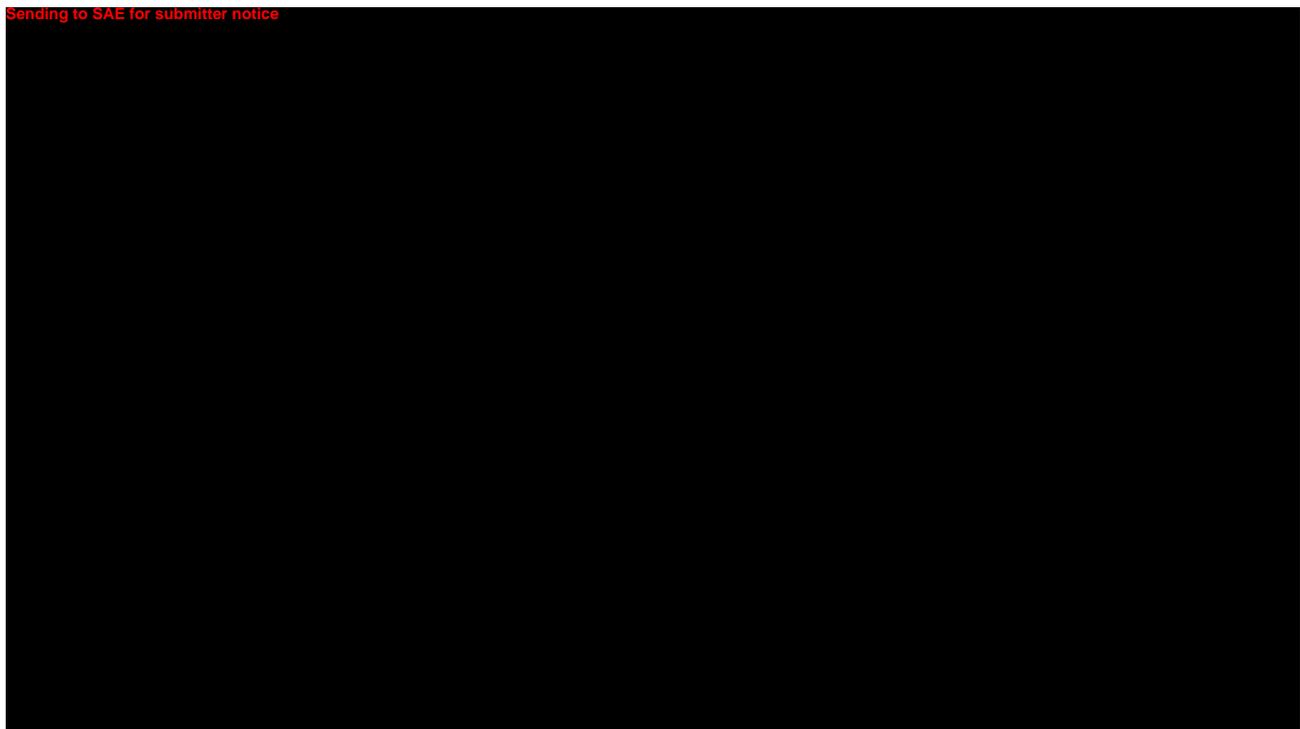
I just received this from Jeff a few minutes ago
Greg

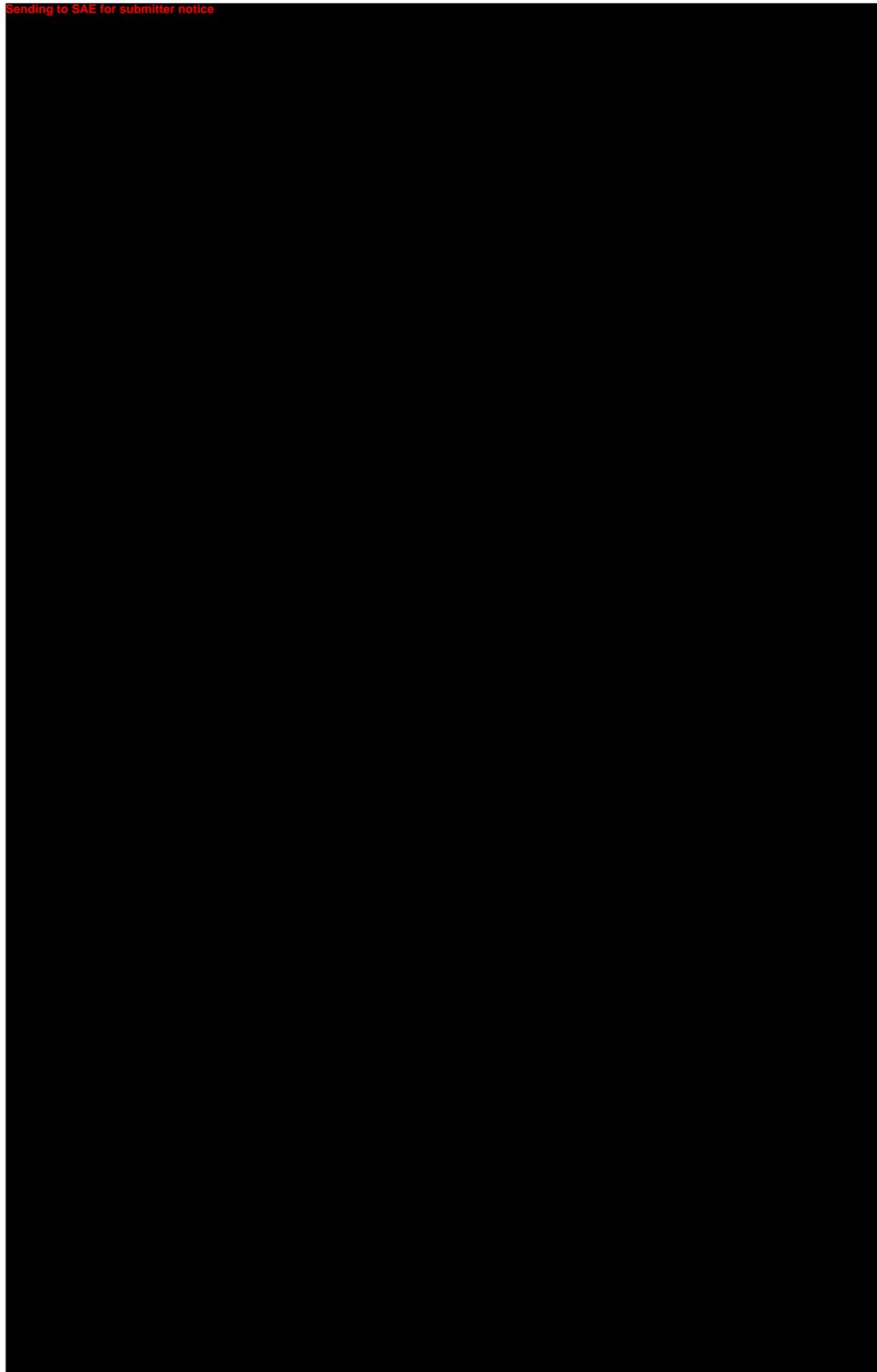
Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Jeff Hastings <jhastings@saexploration.com>
Date: February 13, 2019 at 1:12:33 PM EST
To: "greg_siekaniec@fws.gov" <greg_siekaniec@fws.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] SAE ITR Application

Sending to SAE for submitter notice





Sending to SAE for submitter notice



Jeff Hastings
Chairman & Chief Executive Officer

SAExploration
Safety. Acquisition. Experience.

1160 Dairy Ashford, Suite 160

Houston, Texas 77079

Mobile: 1-907-229-0150

1-250-300-0403

jhastings@saexploration.com

Life Saving Rules



NOTICE OF CONFIDENTIALITY

This material is intended solely for the use of the individual or the entity to which it is addressed and may contain information that is privileged, proprietary, confidential and exempt from disclosure. If you are not the intended recipient, you are notified that any dissemination, distribution or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please notify the sender immediately and destroy this material accordingly

--

Mary Colligan
Assistant Regional Director
Fisheries and Ecological Services
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Alaska Region
1011 E. Tudor Road, MS-361
Anchorage, AK 99503
907-786-3505
cell: 907-223-5945

0000012998

To: Greg Siekaniec[greg_siekaniec@fws.gov]
Cc: Karen Clark[karen_clark@fws.gov]; Patrick Lemons[patrick_lemons@fws.gov]
From: Mary Colligan
Sent: 2019-02-13T23:10:43-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] SAE ITR Application
Received: 2019-02-13T23:10:45-05:00

Sounds good. I am sure the hearing was interesting

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 13, 2019, at 4:54 PM, Greg Siekaniec <greg_siekaniec@fws.gov> wrote:

Mary,

I want to sit on this for tonight. I just wrapped up our public meeting and will respond back to Jeff that we are working on answering the questions he raised. I think I would like to take him up on his offer to have a conference call. I would like to be part of the call. Earliest is Friday as I'm flying all day tomorrow.

I will send him a note this evening.

Greg

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 13, 2019, at 8:26 PM, Colligan, Mary <mary_colligan@fws.gov> wrote:

Greg The email was getting kind of clunky, so Patrick and I have inserted responses/answers in the attached. We are happy to communicate this back to Jeff if you want us to do so. The blue text in the attached is ours the black is their incoming.
Thanks

On Wed, Feb 13, 2019 at 9:16 AM Greg Siekaniec <greg_siekaniec@fws.gov> wrote:

I just received this from Jeff a few minutes ago
Greg

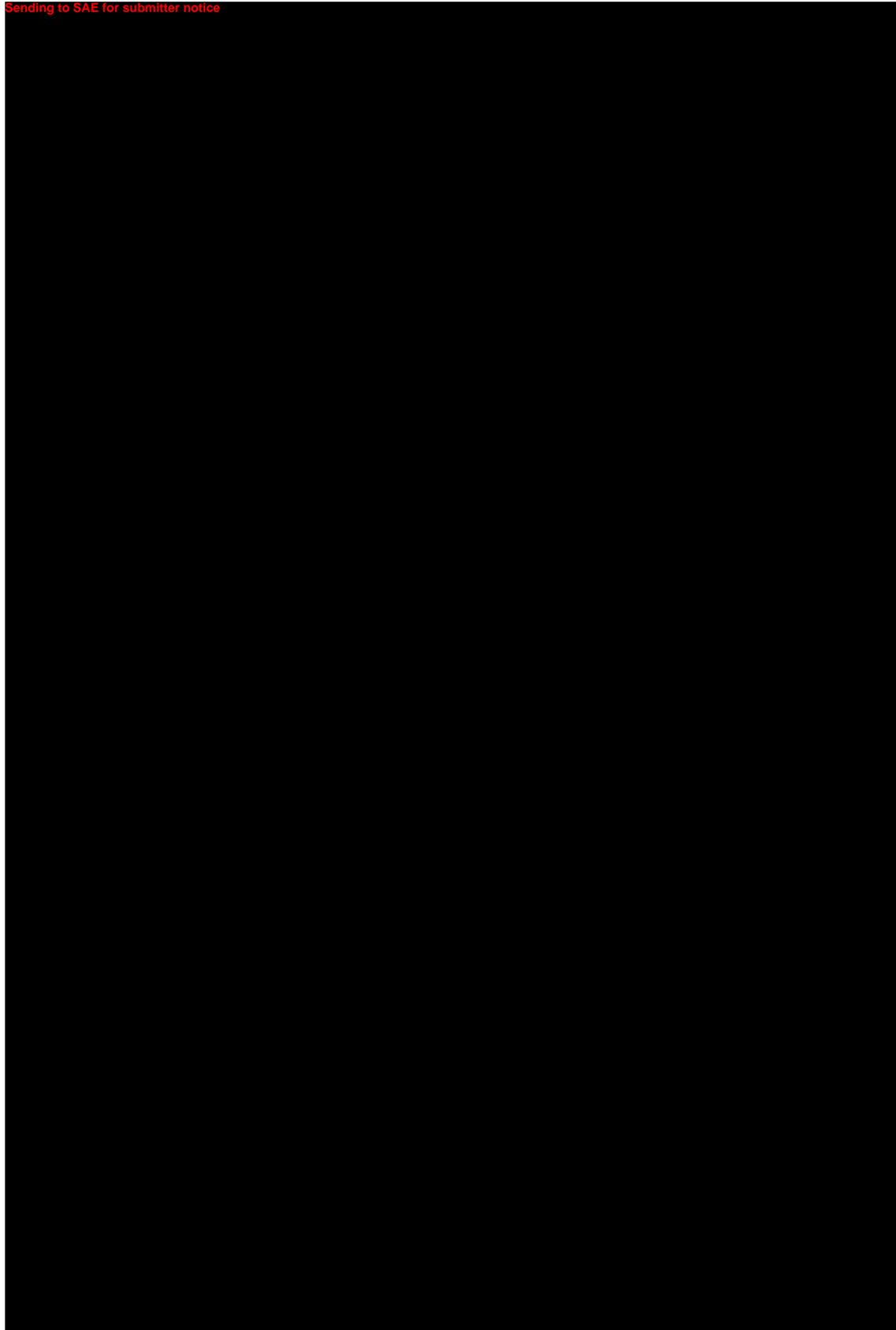
Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

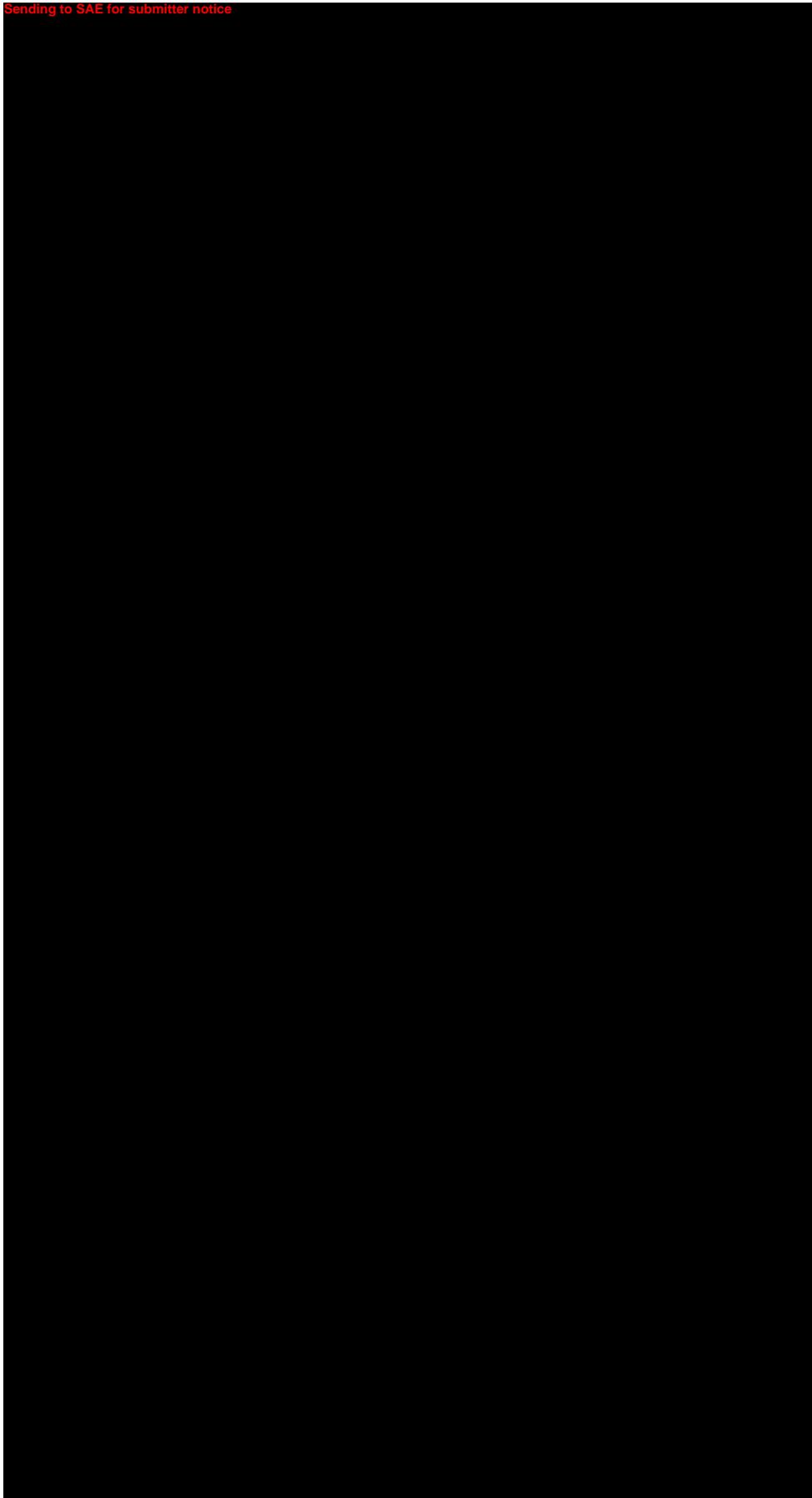
From: Jeff Hastings <jhastings@saexploration.com>
Date: February 13, 2019 at 1:12:33 PM EST
To: "greg_siekaniec@fws.gov" <greg_siekaniec@fws.gov>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] SAE ITR Application

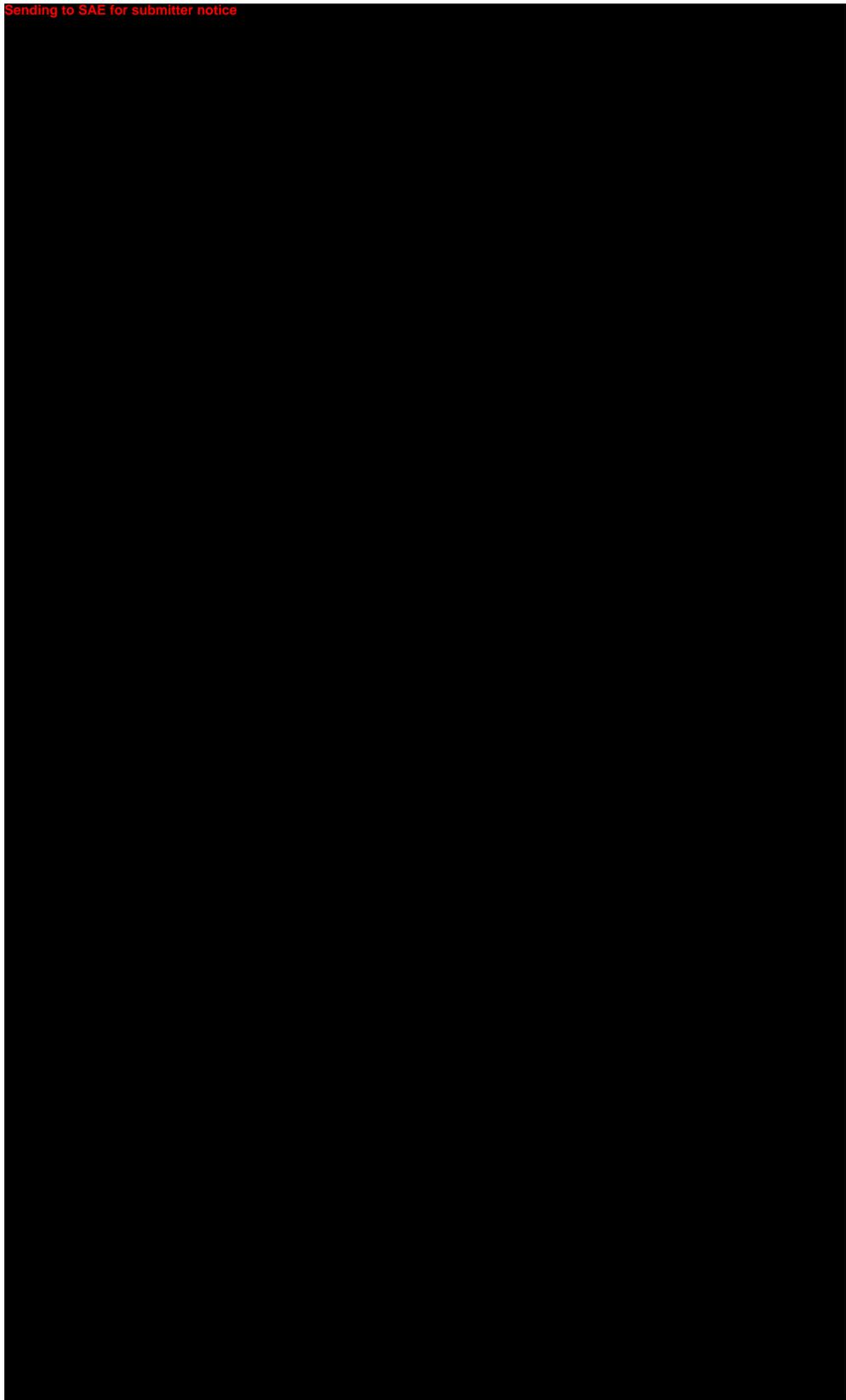
Sending to SAE for submitter notice



Sending to SAE for submitter notice



Sending to SAE for submitter notice



Jeff Hastings

Chairman & Chief Executive Officer

SAExploration
Safety. Acquisition. Experience.

1160 Dairy Ashford, Suite 160

Houston, Texas 77079

Mobile: 1-907-229-0150

1-250-300-0403

jhastings@saexploration.com

Life Saving Rules

<image001.jpg>

NOTICE OF CONFIDENTIALITY

This material is intended solely for the use of the individual or the entity to which it is addressed and may contain information that is privileged, proprietary, confidential and exempt from disclosure. If you are not the intended recipient, you are notified that any dissemination, distribution or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please notify the sender immediately and destroy this material accordingly

--

Mary Colligan
Assistant Regional Director
Fisheries and Ecological Services
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Alaska Region
1011 E. Tudor Road, MS-361
Anchorage, AK 99503
907-786-3505
cell: 907-223-5945

<Responses to SAE - 190213.docx>

0000013003

To: Siekaniec, Greg[greg_siekaniec@fws.gov]
Cc: Karen Clark[karen_clark@fws.gov]; Lor, Socheata[socheata_lor@fws.gov]
From: Boario, Sara
Sent: 2019-02-14T14:44:04-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Arctic Refuge EIS comments
Received: 2019-02-14T14:44:24-05:00
[Facebook Logo for Email Signature Block.png](#)
[twitter-icon Signature Block.jpg](#)

thanks for sharing Greg!

On Mon, Feb 11, 2019 at 7:57 AM Siekaniec, Greg <greg_siekaniec@fws.gov> wrote:

FYI - looks to be an interesting analysis of recreation impacts.
greg

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

From: stu@truenorthgis.net <stu@truenorthgis.net>
Date: Sun, Feb 10, 2019 at 2:01 PM
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Arctic Refuge EIS comments
To: <greg_siekaniec@fws.gov>, <steve_berendzen@fws.gov>, <wendy_loya@fws.gov>

Hello Greg, Steve, and Wendy.

My name is Stuart Smith, and I recently provided comments to the BLM regarding the Coastal Plain oil and gas leasing EIS. My comments involved the extensive use of GIS visibility analysis to determine the extent and severity of the visual impacts that oil and gas development would have on the area's aesthetic, wilderness, and recreational values. The DEIS failed to include such analysis.

I am sending you this letter to ensure that my analyses are brought to your attention since management of the Arctic Refuge falls under USFWS purview. Additionally, I want to make sure that my results are available to inform any comments that USFWS may have regarding the DEIS.

Attached is my comment letter, which also includes links to the source data and GIS output resulting from my analyses. Please feel free to use the letter and linked resources in any way you feel useful. Additionally, please feel free to contact me with any questions or comments you may have.

Best regards,

Stu Smith
(360) 951-5131
stu@truenorthgis.net

--

Sara D. Boario
Assistant Regional Director External Affairs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Alaska Region

0000013004

Anchorage, Alaska
907 786 3431



To: Clark, Karen[karen_clark@fws.gov]
Cc: Gregory Siekaniec[greg_siekaniec@fws.gov]; Sara Boario[sara_boario@fws.gov]
From: Morris, Charisa
Sent: 2019-02-15T14:16:24-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Re: NEED UPDATE ASAP on ITR, and good morning!
Received: 2019-02-15T14:17:07-05:00

Thank you, Karen!

On Fri, Feb 15, 2019 at 2:02 PM Clark, Karen <karen_clark@fws.gov> wrote:

Hey Charisa, the majority looks good. Just updated the last sentence. Just let me know if you need anything else.

Karen

In May 2018, SAExploration (SAE) submitted a permit application to the BLM Arctic District Office for 2019 and 2020 winter(s) seismic activity in the Coastal Plain. Due to Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) stipulations for BLM permitting, SAE (the seismic operator) was required to work with FWS to publish a set of Incidental Take Regulations (ITRs) regarding potential impact to denning maternal bears from the Southern Beaufort Sea Polar Bear stock. After several iterations of a project plan, SAE and FWS agreed on two options for a plan of operations written into an ITR package that was approved by the FWS and signed by ASFWP. FWS submitted the ITR package to the Office of the Federal Register (OFR) while the DOI was still funded and fully operational. However, due to OFR Regulations, the submission was treated as being received during the partial government shutdown and was not published. FWS has reached out to SAE to schedule an additional discussion to determine what their plans are for conducting seismic activity.

Karen P. Clark
Deputy Regional Director
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service- Alaska Region
1011 E Tudor Rd, MS 374
Anchorage, AK 99503
karen_clark@fws.gov
907.786.3542 office
907.786.3493 direct
907.786.3306 fax

On Fri, Feb 15, 2019 at 9:37 AM Morris, Charisa <charisa_morris@fws.gov> wrote:

Hi there!

FWP is requesting an update to the language below. I am waiting to hear back on what time Andrea is meeting with SOI today, but wanted to get the request in front of you in the meantime, since it could be within the hour.

Please confirm receipt.

Thanks!
Charisa

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

From: **Hambleton, Ryan** <ryan_hambleton@ios.doi.gov>

Date: Fri, Feb 15, 2019 at 1:21 PM

Subject: ITR

To: Margaret Everson <margaret_e_everson@fws.gov>

Cc: Morris, Charisa <charisa_morris@fws.gov>

Margaret (and Charisa),

Per Andrea, wanted to make sure that we included the most current status of this matter in today's update. Pasted below is the latest I have from the weekly, but I understand that this may have evolved. Could you please send whatever edits/updates are necessary on the below? Thanks!

In May 2018, SAExploration (SAE) submitted a permit application to the BLM Arctic District Office for 2019 and 2020 winter(s) seismic activity in the Coastal Plain. Due to Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) stipulations for BLM permitting, SAE (the seismic operator) was required to work with FWS to publish a set of Incidental Take Regulations (ITRs) regarding potential impact to denning maternal bears from the Southern Beaufort Sea Polar Bear stock. After several iterations of a project plan, SAE and FWS agreed on two options for a plan of operations written into an ITR package that was approved by the FWS and signed by ASFWP. FWS submitted the ITR package to the Office of the Federal Register (OFR) while the DOI was still funded and fully operational. However, due to OFR Regulations, the submission was treated as being received during the partial government shutdown and was not published. FWS has been in discussions with SAE to determine that their plans are for conducting seismic activity and once those are concluded will be able to project a date for publication of proposed ITRs.

--
Ryan Hambleton
*Deputy Assistant Secretary
for Fish and Wildlife and Parks*
U.S. Department of the Interior

0000013007

1849 C Street, NW, 3160
Washington, DC 20240
(202) 208 4416

--

Charisa_Morris@fws.gov | Chief of Staff, Office of the Director | U.S. Fish & Wildlife
Service | 1849 C Street NW, Room 3348 | Washington, DC 20240 | (202) 208-3843 | For urgent matters,
please dial cell: 301-875-8937

--

Charisa_Morris@fws.gov | Chief of Staff, Office of the Director | U.S. Fish & Wildlife
Service | 1849 C Street NW, Room 3348 | Washington, DC 20240 | (202) 208-3843 | For urgent matters,
please dial cell: 301-875-8937

To: Karen Clark[karen_clark@fws.gov]
From: Greg Siekaniec
Sent: 2019-02-15T16:45:12-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Fwd: [EXTERNAL]
Received: 2019-02-15T16:45:15-05:00

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Mary Colligan <mary_colligan@fws.gov>
Date: February 15, 2019 at 11:59:41 AM AKST
To: Patrick Lemons <patrick_lemons@fws.gov>, greg_siekaniec@fws.gov
Subject: Fwd: [EXTERNAL]

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Jeff Hastings <jhastings@saexploration.com>
Date: February 15, 2019 at 10:46:48 AM AKST
To: "mary_colligan@fws.gov" <mary_colligan@fws.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL]

Mary a call this afternoon at 3PM Anchorage time works for me

Jeff Hastings

Chairman & Chief Executive Officer

SAExploration

Safety. Acquisition. Experience.

1160 Dairy Ashford, Suite 160
Houston, Texas 77079

Mobile: 1-907-229-0150
1-250-300-0403

jhastings@saexploration.com

Life Saving Rules



NOTICE OF CONFIDENTIALITY

This material is intended solely for the use of the individual or the entity to which it is addressed and may contain information that is privileged, proprietary, confidential and exempt from disclosure. If you are not the intended recipient, you are notified that any dissemination, distribution or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please notify the sender immediately and destroy this material accordingly

To: Howard, Ameer[amee_howard@fws.gov]
From: Siekaniec, Greg
Sent: 2019-02-20T18:22:50-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Fwd: DUE COB 2/20: State-specific BPs for NGA Governors Meetings February 23-25
Received: 2019-02-20T18:23:27-05:00
02.08.19 Briefing Paper - Alaska Region (1).docx

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

From: **Morris, Charisa** <charisa_morris@fws.gov>
Date: Tue, Feb 19, 2019 at 10:24 AM
Subject: DUE COB 2/20: State-specific BPs for NGA Governors Meetings February 23-25
To: Robyn Thorson <robyn_thorson@fws.gov>, Charles Wooley <charles_wooley@fws.gov>, Wendi Weber <wendi_weber@fws.gov>, Deborah Rocque <deborah_rocque@fws.gov>, Noreen Walsh <noreen_walsh@fws.gov>, Matthew Trott <matthew_trott@fws.gov>, Mary Abrams <mary_abrams@fws.gov>, Jeffrey Fleming <jeffrey_m_fleming@fws.gov>, Amy Lueders <amy_lueders@fws.gov>, Gregory Siekaniec <greg_siekaniec@fws.gov>, Karen Clark <karen_clark@fws.gov>, Paul Souza <paul_souza@fws.gov>, Jody Holzworth <jody_holzworth@fws.gov>
Cc: Jim Kurth <jim_kurth@fws.gov>, Melissa Beaumont <melissa_beaumont@fws.gov>, Matthew Huggler <Matthew_Huggler@fws.gov>

Good afternoon-

Meeting are being scheduled with Acting Secretary Bernhardt during the National Governor's Association event this coming weekend; as a result, we need to get a BP per state (short list below) to ASFWP by 2pm Thursday. Please use the example attached (go Alaska!) as a template, and submit your bps through me by COB tomorrow (2/20) so the Director's Office will have time to review prior to final submission.

- Arizona
- Idaho
- New Mexico
- Alaska
- Utah
- Massachusetts
- California
- Colorado
- Nevada
- Oregon
- Wyoming

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Many thanks,
Charisa

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

From: **Maureen Foster** <maureen_foster@ios.doi.gov>

Date: Tue, Feb 19, 2019 at 11:34 AM

Subject: Fwd: NGA Governors Meetings February 23-25

To: <chris_powell@nps.gov>, Morris Charisa <charisa_morris@fws.gov>, <melissa_beaumont@fws.gov>, <charles_laudner@nps.gov>

Due to ASFWP by 2:00 on Thursday please.

Maureen D. Foster
Chief of Staff
Office of the Assistant Secretary for
Fish and Wildlife and Parks.
202.208.5970 office
202.306.3845 cell

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Hebert, Samantha" <samantha_hebert@ios.doi.gov>
Date: February 19, 2019 at 10:10:24 AM EST
To: "Willens, Todd" <todd_willens@ios.doi.gov>
Subject: NGA Governors Meetings February 23-25

Good Morning,
The following Governors are being scheduled to meet with Acting Secretary Bernhardt during the National Governor's Association event this coming weekends.

All hallways will need to gather pertinent information which may be discussed regarding each state, in memo form, and submit to Matt Dermody and Samantha Hebert **no later than COB Thursday** so the information can be put into one memo for each state and sent home with the Acting Secretary in his briefing book.

Please feel free to reach out with any questions.

Thanks,
Sam

- Arizona
- Idaho

- New Mexico
- Alaska
- Utah
- Massachusetts
- California
- Colorado
- Nevada
- Oregon
- Wyoming

--

Samantha Hebert
U.S. Department of the Interior
Immediate Office of the Secretary
Director, Scheduling and Advance
Direct: 202-208-4025
Cell: 202-412-6142
Email: Samantha_Hebert@ios.doi.gov

NOTE: Every email I send or receive is subject to release under the Freedom of Information Act.

--

[Charisa Morris@fws.gov](mailto:Charisa_Morris@fws.gov) | Chief of Staff, Office of the Director | U.S. Fish & Wildlife
Service | 1849 C Street NW, Room 3348 | Washington, DC 20240 | (202) 208-3843 | For urgent matters,
please dial cell: 301-875-8937

To: Siekaniec, Greg[greg_siekaniec@fws.gov]
From: Howard, Amee
Sent: 2019-02-20T19:04:57-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Re: DUE COB 2/20: State-specific BPs for NGA Governors Meetings February 23-25
Received: 2019-02-20T19:05:15-05:00
02.20.19 Briefing Paper - Alaska Region.docx

Hi Greg,

Attached is the updated version. Cleaned up language around Arctic to be consistent with last weeks Arctic Refuge Tribal Consultation BP that we sent to the Department.

Let me know if you see anything that needs to be changed.

Thanks so much!

Amee

On Wed, Feb 20, 2019 at 2:23 PM Siekaniec, Greg <greg_siekaniec@fws.gov> wrote:

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

From: **Morris, Charisa** <charisa_morris@fws.gov>

Date: Tue, Feb 19, 2019 at 10:24 AM

Subject: DUE COB 2/20: State-specific BPs for NGA Governors Meetings February 23-25

To: Robyn Thorson <robyn_thorson@fws.gov>, Charles Wooley <charles_wooley@fws.gov>, Wendi Weber <wendi_weber@fws.gov>, Deborah Rocque <deborah_rocque@fws.gov>, Noreen Walsh <noreen_walsh@fws.gov>, Matthew Trott <matthew_trott@fws.gov>, Mary Abrams <mary_abrams@fws.gov>, Jeffrey Fleming <jeffrey_m_fleming@fws.gov>, Amy Lueders <amy_lueders@fws.gov>, Gregory Siekaniec <greg_siekaniec@fws.gov>, Karen Clark <karen_clark@fws.gov>, Paul Souza <paul_souza@fws.gov>, Jody Holzworth <jody_holzworth@fws.gov>

Cc: Jim Kurth <jim_kurth@fws.gov>, Melissa Beaumont <melissa_beaumont@fws.gov>, Matthew Huggler <Matthew_Huggler@fws.gov>

Good afternoon-

Meeting are being scheduled with Acting Secretary Bernhardt during the National Governor's Association event this coming weekend; as a result, we need to get a BP per state (short list below) to ASFWP by 2pm Thursday. Please use the example attached (go Alaska!) as a template, and submit your bps through me by COB tomorrow (2/20) so the Director's Office will have time to review prior to final submission.

- Arizona
- Idaho
- New Mexico
- Alaska
- Utah
- Massachusetts

- California
- Colorado
- Nevada
- Oregon
- Wyoming

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Many thanks,
Charisa

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

From: **Maureen Foster** <maureen_foster@ios.doi.gov>

Date: Tue, Feb 19, 2019 at 11:34 AM

Subject: Fwd: NGA Governors Meetings February 23-25

To: <chris_powell@nps.gov>, Morris Charisa <charisa_morris@fws.gov>, <melissa_beaumont@fws.gov>, <charles_laudner@nps.gov>

Due to ASFWP by 2:00 on Thursday please.

Maureen D. Foster
Chief of Staff
Office of the Assistant Secretary for
Fish and Wildlife and Parks.
202.208.5970 office
202.306.3845 cell

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Hebert, Samantha" <samantha_hebert@ios.doi.gov>
Date: February 19, 2019 at 10:10:24 AM EST
To: "Willens, Todd" <todd_willens@ios.doi.gov>
Subject: NGA Governors Meetings February 23-25

Good Morning,
The following Governors are being scheduled to meet with Acting Secretary Bernhardt during the National Governor's Association event this coming weekends.

All hallways will need to gather pertinent information which may be discussed regarding

each state, in memo form, and submit to Matt Dermody and Samantha Hebert **no later than COB Thursday** so the information can be put into one memo for each state and sent home with the Acting Secretary in his briefing book.

Please feel free to reach out with any questions.

Thanks,
Sam

- Arizona
- Idaho
- New Mexico
- Alaska
- Utah
- Massachusetts
- California
- Colorado
- Nevada
- Oregon
- Wyoming

--
Samantha Hebert
U.S. Department of the Interior
Immediate Office of the Secretary
Director, Scheduling and Advance
Direct: 202-208-4025
Cell: 202-412-6142
Email: Samantha_Hebert@ios.doi.gov

NOTE: *Every email I send or receive is subject to release under the Freedom of Information Act.*

--
[Charisa Morris@fws.gov](mailto:Charisa_Morris@fws.gov) | Chief of Staff, Office of the Director | U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service | 1849 C Street NW, Room 3348 | Washington, DC 20240 | (202) 208-3843 | For urgent matters, please dial cell: 301-875-8937

--
Amee Howard
Congressional and State Liaison
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
Anchorage, Alaska
Office: (907)786-3509
Mobile: (907)229-8575

To: Charisa Morris[charisa_morris@fws.gov]
From: Siekaniec, Greg
Sent: 2019-02-20T19:20:38-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Fwd: DUE COB 2/20: State-specific BPs for NGA Governors Meetings February 23-25
Received: 2019-02-20T19:21:15-05:00
[02.20.19 Briefing Paper - Alaska Region.docx](#)

Charisa,

I asked Amee to take a quick look and she updated some language to be inline with last weeks submission on another matter. Please find it attached.

Thanks and I trust you are back to reality after the paradise vacation.

greg

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

From: Howard, Amee <amee_howard@fws.gov>
Date: Wed, Feb 20, 2019 at 3:05 PM
Subject: Re: DUE COB 2/20: State-specific BPs for NGA Governors Meetings February 23-25
To: Siekaniec, Greg <greg_siekaniec@fws.gov>

Hi Greg,

Attached is the updated version. Cleaned up language around Arctic to be consistent with last weeks Arctic Refuge Tribal Consultation BP that we sent to the Department.

Let me know if you see anything that needs to be changed.

Thanks so much!

Amee

On Wed, Feb 20, 2019 at 2:23 PM Siekaniec, Greg <greg_siekaniec@fws.gov> wrote:

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

From: Morris, Charisa <charisa_morris@fws.gov>
Date: Tue, Feb 19, 2019 at 10:24 AM
Subject: DUE COB 2/20: State-specific BPs for NGA Governors Meetings February 23-25
To: Robyn Thorson <robyn_thorson@fws.gov>, Charles Wooley <charles_wooley@fws.gov>, Wendi Weber <wendi_weber@fws.gov>, Deborah Rocque <deborah_rocque@fws.gov>, Noreen Walsh <noreen_walsh@fws.gov>, Matthew Trott <matthew_trott@fws.gov>, Mary Abrams <mary_abrams@fws.gov>, Jeffrey Fleming <jeffrey_m_fleming@fws.gov>, Amy Lueders <amy_lueders@fws.gov>, Gregory Siekaniec <greg_siekaniec@fws.gov>, Karen Clark <karen_clark@fws.gov>, Paul Souza <paul_souza@fws.gov>, Jody Holzworth <jody_holzworth@fws.gov>
Cc: Jim Kurth <jim_kurth@fws.gov>, Melissa Beaumont <melissa_beaumont@fws.gov>, Matthew Huggler <Matthew_Huggler@fws.gov>

0000013017

Good afternoon-

Meetings are being scheduled with Acting Secretary Bernhardt during the National Governor's Association event this coming weekend; as a result, we need to get a BP per state (short list below) to ASFWP by 2pm Thursday. Please use the example attached (go Alaska!) as a template, and submit your bps through me by COB tomorrow (2/20) so the Director's Office will have time to review prior to final submission.

- Arizona
- Idaho
- New Mexico
- Alaska
- Utah
- Massachusetts
- California
- Colorado
- Nevada
- Oregon
- Wyoming

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Many thanks,
Charisa

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

From: **Maureen Foster** <maureen_foster@ios.doi.gov>

Date: Tue, Feb 19, 2019 at 11:34 AM

Subject: Fwd: NGA Governors Meetings February 23-25

To: <chris_powell@nps.gov>, Morris Charisa <charisa_morris@fws.gov>, <melissa_beaumont@fws.gov>, <charles_laudner@nps.gov>

Due to ASFWP by 2:00 on Thursday please.

Maureen D. Foster
Chief of Staff
Office of the Assistant Secretary for
Fish and Wildlife and Parks.
202.208.5970 office
202.306.3845 cell

Begin forwarded message:

0000013018

From: "Hebert, Samantha" <samantha_hebert@ios.doi.gov>
Date: February 19, 2019 at 10:10:24 AM EST
To: "Willens, Todd" <todd_willens@ios.doi.gov>
Subject: NGA Governors Meetings February 23-25

Good Morning,

The following Governors are being scheduled to meet with Acting Secretary Bernhardt during the National Governor's Association event this coming weekends.

All hallways will need to gather pertinent information which may be discussed regarding each state, in memo form, and submit to Matt Dermody and Samantha Hebert **no later than COB Thursday** so the information can be put into one memo for each state and sent home with the Acting Secretary in his briefing book.

Please feel free to reach out with any questions.

Thanks,
Sam

- Arizona
- Idaho
- New Mexico
- Alaska
- Utah
- Massachusetts
- California
- Colorado
- Nevada
- Oregon
- Wyoming

--
Samantha Hebert
U.S. Department of the Interior
Immediate Office of the Secretary
Director, Scheduling and Advance
Direct: 202-208-4025
Cell: 202-412-6142
Email: Samantha_Hebert@ios.doi.gov

NOTE: Every email I send or receive is subject to release under the Freedom of Information Act.

0000013019

--

[Charisa Morris@fws.gov](mailto:Charisa_Morris@fws.gov) | Chief of Staff, Office of the Director | U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service | 1849 C Street NW, Room 3348 | Washington, DC 20240 | (202) 208-3843 | For urgent matters, please dial cell: 301-875-8937

--

Amee Howard

Congressional and State Liaison

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Anchorage, Alaska

Office: (907)786-3509

Mobile: (907)229-8575

To: Siekaniec, Greg[greg_siekaniec@fws.gov]
From: Charisa Morris
Sent: 2019-02-20T19:33:58-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Re: DUE COB 2/20: State-specific BPs for NGA Governors Meetings February 23-25
Received: 2019-02-20T19:34:02-05:00

Got it- thank you!

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 20, 2019, at 7:20 PM, Siekaniec, Greg <greg_siekaniec@fws.gov> wrote:

Charisa,
I asked Amee to take a quick look and she updated some language to be inline with last weeks submission on another matter. Please find it attached.

Thanks and I trust you are back to reality after the paradise vacation.

greg

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

From: Howard, Amee <amee_howard@fws.gov>
Date: Wed, Feb 20, 2019 at 3:05 PM
Subject: Re: DUE COB 2/20: State-specific BPs for NGA Governors Meetings February 23-25
To: Siekaniec, Greg <greg_siekaniec@fws.gov>

Hi Greg,
Attached is the updated version. Cleaned up language around Arctic to be consistent with last weeks Arctic Refuge Tribal Consultation BP that we sent to the Department.

Let me know if you see anything that needs to be changed.
Thanks so much!
Amee

On Wed, Feb 20, 2019 at 2:23 PM Siekaniec, Greg <greg_siekaniec@fws.gov> wrote:

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

From: Morris, Charisa <charisa_morris@fws.gov>
Date: Tue, Feb 19, 2019 at 10:24 AM
Subject: DUE COB 2/20: State-specific BPs for NGA Governors Meetings February 23-25

To: Robyn Thorson <robyn_thorson@fws.gov>, Charles Wooley
<charles_wooley@fws.gov>, Wendi Weber <wendi_weber@fws.gov>, Deborah
Rocque <deborah_rocque@fws.gov>, Noreen Walsh <noreen_walsh@fws.gov>,
Matthew Trott <matthew_trott@fws.gov>, Mary Abrams
<mary_abrams@fws.gov>, Jeffrey Fleming <jeffrey_m_fleming@fws.gov>,
Amy Lueders <amy_lueders@fws.gov>, Gregory Siekaniec
<greg_siekaniec@fws.gov>, Karen Clark <karen_clark@fws.gov>, Paul Souza
<paul_souza@fws.gov>, Jody Holzworth <jody_holzworth@fws.gov>
Cc: Jim Kurth <jim_kurth@fws.gov>, Melissa Beaumont
<melissa_beaumont@fws.gov>, Matthew Huggler
<Matthew_Huggler@fws.gov>

Good afternoon-

Meeting are being scheduled with Acting Secretary Bernhardt during the National Governor's Association event this coming weekend; as a result, we need to get a BP per state (short list below) to ASFWP by 2pm Thursday. Please use the example attached (go Alaska!) as a template, and submit your bps through me by COB tomorrow (2/20) so the Director's Office will have time to review prior to final submission.

- Arizona
- Idaho
- New Mexico
- Alaska
- Utah
- Massachusetts
- California
- Colorado
- Nevada
- Oregon
- Wyoming

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Many thanks,
Charisa

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

From: **Maureen Foster** <maureen_foster@ios.doi.gov>
Date: Tue, Feb 19, 2019 at 11:34 AM
Subject: Fwd: NGA Governors Meetings February 23-25
To: <chris_powell@nps.gov>, Morris Charisa <charisa_morris@fws.gov>,
<melissa_beaumont@fws.gov>, <charles_laudner@nps.gov>

Due to ASFWP by 2:00 on Thursday please.

Maureen D. Foster
Chief of Staff
Office of the Assistant Secretary for
Fish and Wildlife and Parks.
202.208.5970 office
202.306.3845 cell

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Hebert, Samantha" <samantha_hebert@ios.doi.gov>
Date: February 19, 2019 at 10:10:24 AM EST
To: "Willens, Todd" <todd_willens@ios.doi.gov>
Subject: **NGA Governors Meetings February 23-25**

Good Morning,
The following Governors are being scheduled to meet with Acting Secretary Bernhardt during the National Governor's Association event this coming weekends.

All hallways will need to gather pertinent information which may be discussed regarding each state, in memo form, and submit to Matt Dermody and Samantha Hebert **no later than COB Thursday** so the information can be put into one memo for each state and sent home with the Acting Secretary in his briefing book.

Please feel free to reach out with any questions.

Thanks,
Sam

- Arizona
- Idaho
- New Mexico
- Alaska
- Utah
- Massachusetts
- California
- Colorado
- Nevada
- Oregon

- Wyoming

--

Samantha Hebert
U.S. Department of the Interior
Immediate Office of the Secretary
Director, Scheduling and Advance
Direct: 202-208-4025
Cell: 202-412-6142
Email: Samantha_Hebert@ios.doi.gov

NOTE: *Every email I send or receive is subject to release under the Freedom of Information Act.*

--

[Charisa Morris@fws.gov](mailto:Charisa_Morris@fws.gov) | Chief of Staff, Office of the Director | U.S. Fish &
Wildlife Service | 1849 C Street NW, Room 3348 | Washington, DC 20240 | (202) 208-3843
| For urgent matters, please dial cell: 301-875-8937

--

Amee Howard
Congressional and State Liaison
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
Anchorage, Alaska
Office: (907)786-3509
Mobile: (907)229-8575

<02.20.19 Briefing Paper - Alaska Region.docx>

To: Gregory Siekaniec[greg_siekaniec@fws.gov]
Cc: Karen Clark[karen_clark@fws.gov]
From: Boario, Sara
Sent: 2019-02-20T20:21:53-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: draft write ups of coming ITR/IHAs for HQ
Received: 2019-02-20T20:22:10-05:00
[Facebook Logo for Email Signature Block.png](#)
[twitter-icon Signature Block.jpg](#)

Greg --

Charissa requested these, you ok with me sending up as written?

02.20.19 – Current and anticipated ITR/IHA Summaries

Cook Inlet ITRs schedule already sent to HQ 2/15/19
Hilcorp and AK LNG are proposing multi year activities in the Cook Inlet that have the potential to result in Level A harassment of sea otters. The original timeline would have provided Hilcorp with an LOA in April 2019. However, the Service re evaluated the schedule after returning to work which provides 5 working days for review and clearance once the package leaves the Alaska Region at both the proposed and final stage, and a 15 day public comment period. The Service expects the draft ITR to leave the Alaska Region on March 8 and the final ITR to publish on May 3, with an LOA issued that same day.

1002 Seismic ITRs We spoke with SAE on Friday, February 15th and they would like us to start processing their ITR request with the goal of having a final ITR issued before fall 2019, in advance of a lease sale. We are waiting for notification from SAE indicating any changes they would like to make to their previously submitted application. Once we have that final request and can evaluate what additional analysis is required for any proposed changes, we can develop a proposed timeline. Meeting a fall 2019 delivery schedule will require shortened review times in the Region and Headquarters.

Pebble Mine IHA Pebble has requested an IHA that would cover take of sea otters for work they would like to conduct this spring/summer. We are currently waiting for a revised application and once we receive that and evaluate it, we can determine whether the application is complete and propose a timeline. It is unlikely we will be able to meet their requested date. Pebble Mine is proposing offshore surveys for future planning purposes with regards to where to put their facility in the Kamishak Bay area. The IHA would cover incidental take of sea otters in this area and it is also worth noting that these activities will occur within the ESA listed southwest stock of sea otters.

--

Sara D. Boario
Assistant Regional Director External Affairs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Alaska Region
Anchorage, Alaska
907 786 3431

0000013025

To: Morris, Charisa[charisa_morris@fws.gov]
Cc: Gregory Siekaniec[greg_siekaniec@fws.gov]; Karen Clark[karen_clark@fws.gov]
From: Boario, Sara
Sent: 2019-02-20T20:34:48-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Re: Due Wednesday 2/20: ITR list/timeline
Received: 2019-02-20T20:35:03-05:00

Charisa -

Here is the list!

02.20.19 – Current and anticipated ITR/IHA Summaries

Cook Inlet ITRs schedule already sent to HQ 2/15/19
Hilcorp and AK LNG are proposing multi year activities in the Cook Inlet that have the potential to result in Level A harassment of sea otters. The original timeline would have provided Hilcorp with an LOA in April 2019. However, the Service re-evaluated the schedule after returning to work which provides 5 working days for review and clearance once the package leaves the Alaska Region at both the proposed and final stage, and a 15 day public comment period. The Service expects the draft ITR to leave the Alaska Region on March 8 and the final ITR to publish on May 3, with an LOA issued that same day.

1002 Seismic ITRs We spoke with SAE on Friday, February 15th and they would like us to start processing their ITR request with the goal of having a final ITR issued before fall 2019, in advance of a lease sale. We are waiting for notification from SAE indicating any changes they would like to make to their previously submitted application. Once we have that final request and can evaluate what additional analysis is required for any proposed changes, we can develop a proposed timeline. Meeting a fall 2019 delivery schedule will require shortened review times in the Region and Headquarters.

Pebble Mine IHA Pebble has requested an IHA that would cover take of sea otters for work they would like to conduct this spring/summer. We are currently waiting for a revised application and once we receive that and evaluate it, we can determine whether the application is complete and propose a timeline. They would like to begin work in May/June of this year; it is unlikely we will be able to meet this requested date due to the ongoing revisions to the application. Pebble Mine is proposing offshore surveys for future planning purposes with regards to where to put their facility in the Kamishak Bay area. The IHA would cover incidental take of sea otters in this area and it is also worth noting that these activities will occur within the ESA listed southwest stock of sea otters.

We also currently working on approximately ten Letters of Authorization (LOA) under the existing Southern Beaufort Sea ITRs, as well approximately three intentional take authorizations for hazing

I hope to get you our entire list of expected regional actions that will require communications support in the coming weeks. We're currently compiling all of those from the programs.

Sara

On Fri, Feb 15, 2019 at 1:32 PM Morris, Charisa <charisa_morris@fws.gov> wrote:

You rock - thank you, Sara!

On Fri, Feb 15, 2019 at 5:23 PM Boario, Sara <sara_boario@fws.gov> wrote:

Yep, I've started that work with the RDT on all actions we expect, including ITRs.

sb

On Fri, Feb 15, 2019 at 1:08 PM Morris, Charisa <charisa_morris@fws.gov> wrote:

Hi there!

Margaret has just asked if, in addition to today's blurb on the Hill Corp otter ITR, she could get a list/timeline of all ITRs that we are aware of. I think this ask may have already been on your radar, but I've confirmed she would like to receive it by midweek. Does delivery by 2pm eastern 2/20 work?

Thanks!
Charisa

--

Charisa_Morris@fws.gov | Chief of Staff, Office of the Director | U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service | 1849 C Street NW, Room 3348 | Washington, DC 20240 | (202) 208-3843 | For urgent matters, please dial cell: 301-875-8937

--

Sara D. Boario
Assistant Regional Director External Affairs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Alaska Region
Anchorage, Alaska
907 786 3431



--

Charisa_Morris@fws.gov | Chief of Staff, Office of the Director | U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service | 1849 C Street NW, Room 3348 | Washington, DC 20240 | (202) 208-3843 | For urgent matters, please dial cell: 301-875-8937

--

Sara D. Boario
Assistant Regional Director External Affairs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Alaska Region
Anchorage, Alaska
907 786 3431



To: Wackowski, Stephen[stephen_wackowski@ios.doi.gov]; Andrea Medeiros[andrea_medeiros@fws.gov]
Cc: Gavin Shire[gavin_shire@fws.gov]; Faith Vander Voort[faith_vandervoort@ios.doi.gov]; Lesli Ellis-Wouters[lellis@blm.gov]
From: Boario, Sara
Sent: 2019-02-22T14:57:48-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Fw: Statement/clarification on ANWR seismic?
Received: 2019-02-22T14:58:00-05:00
[twitter-icon Signature Block.jpg](#)
[Facebook Logo for Email Signature Block.png](#)

Hey Steve -

I was out of the office yesterday, and just getting caught back up -- do you still need help with this? I'll have Andrea take a crack at it.

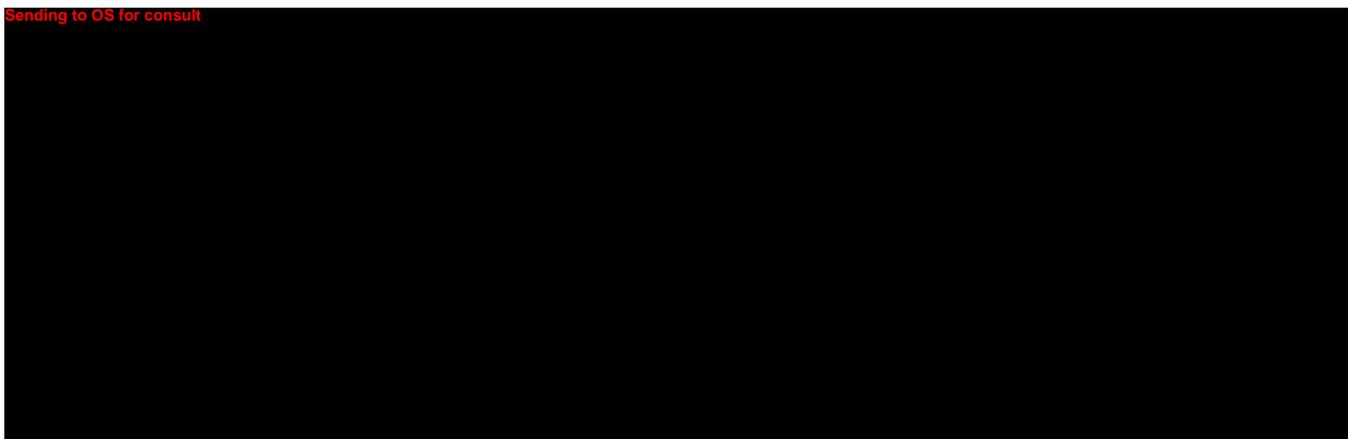
If you guys ever need anything immediate and don't hear from, make sure to loop Andrea in. She's our media POC.

thanks!

sb

On Thu, Feb 21, 2019 at 9:21 AM Wackowski, Stephen <stephen_wackowski@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

Sending to OS for consult



Best,

Steve

Steve Wackowski
Senior Adviser for Alaskan Affairs
Department of the Interior
4230 University Drive, Suite 300
Anchorage, AK 99508
907-271-5485

0000013029

On Thu, Feb 21, 2019 at 9:53 AM Vander Voort, Faith <faith_vandervoort@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

Please advise Steve

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

From: **Lesli Ellis-Wouters** <lellis@blm.gov>

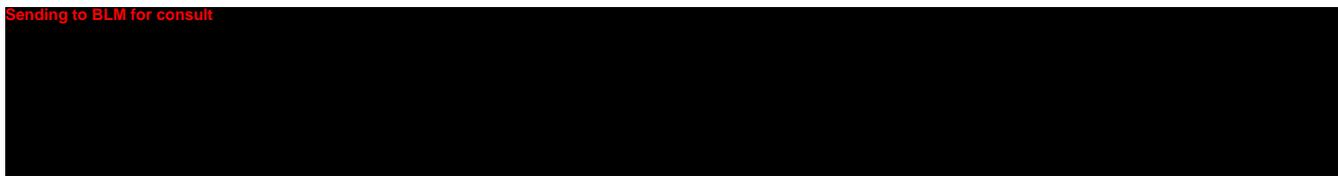
Date: Thu, Feb 21, 2019 at 9:52 AM

Subject: Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Fw: Statement/clarification on ANWR seismic?

To: <faith_vandervoort@ios.doi.gov>

CC: <t75murph@blm.gov>

Sending to BLM for consult



Sent from my iPhone
Lesli J. Ellis-Wouters
Communications Director
BLM Alaska

Begin forwarded message:

From: "McGlashen, Andy" <amcglashen@audubon.org>
Date: February 21, 2019 at 5:38:01 AM AKST
To: "lellis@blm.gov" <lellis@blm.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Fw: Statement/clarification on ANWR seismic?

Hi Lesli,

Faith Vander Voort at Interior said you might be able to address the questions below.

Thank you for your time and any clarification you can provide.

Andy

From: McGlashen, Andy
Sent: Tuesday, February 12, 2019 2:55 PM
To: Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov
Subject: Statement/clarification on ANWR seismic?

0000013030

Greetings,

I've seen news reports indicating that SAExploration would not begin seismic testing in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge this winter, along with more recent reports that the testing might begin this winter after all.

I just hoped Interior could clarify the situation for me:

Does the department expect SAExploration to begin seismic testing this winter/spring?

Is a Marine Mammal Protection Act permit the last obstacle SAExploration needs to clear before seismic work can begin?

Where does that permitting process stand?

Thanks,
Andy

—

Andy McGlashen

Associate Editor, Conservation Policy
517.420.1908
Pronouns: he, him, his

National Audubon Society

225 Varick Street, 7th Floor
New York, NY 10014
www.audubon.org

--

Faith C. Vander Voort
Deputy Press Secretary
Department of the Interior

--

Sara D. Boario
Assistant Regional Director External Affairs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Alaska Region
Anchorage, Alaska
907 786 3431



To: Wilkinson, Susan[susan_wilkinson@fws.gov]
Cc: Gregory Siekaniec[gregory_siekaniec@fws.gov]; Colligan, Mary[mary_colligan@fws.gov]
From: Frazer, Gary
Sent: 2019-02-22T15:35:18-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Re: need updates on two rules for the Unified Agenda
Received: 2019-02-22T15:35:37-05:00

Proposal for Cook Inlet -- March 2019
Proposal for Arctic Coastal Plain -- May 2019

Both are likely to go to final before the end of the FY. -- GDF

Gary Frazer
Assistant Director -- Ecological Services
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
(202) 208-4646

On Fri, Feb 22, 2019 at 3:21 PM Wilkinson, Susan <susan_wilkinson@fws.gov> wrote:

Hi---sorry to bother you, but the folks in AK are saying that this is a Directorate decision. For the Unified Agenda, I need anticipated publication dates for proposed rules for these two rulemaking actions:

1018-BD62: Incidental Take of Marine Mammals During Specified Activities; Arctic Coastal Plain

Abstract: We will propose to authorize the incidental take of polar bears on the coastal plain of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge during oil and gas industry exploration seismic surveys and associated activities.

1018-BD63: Incidental Take of Marine Mammals During Specified Activities; Cook Inlet

Abstract: We will propose to authorize the incidental take of northern sea otters in Cook Inlet, Alaska, during oil and gas exploration, development, and production activities.

I just need a month/year. Can you give me that info---or let me know whom to ask?
Thanks.

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

From: Hamilton, Charles <charles_hamilton@fws.gov>

Date: Fri, Feb 22, 2019 at 3:05 PM

Subject: Re: need updates on two rules for the Unified Agenda

To: Wilkinson, Susan <susan_wilkinson@fws.gov>

Cc: Diane Bowen <diane_bowen@fws.gov>, Putnam, Christopher <christopher_putnam@fws.gov>, Patrick Lemons <Patrick_Lemons@fws.gov>, Mary Colligan <mary_colligan@fws.gov>, Karen Clark <Karen_Clark@fws.gov>

Hi Sue,

After following up here in the Region, and given that timing of these actions

is being considered by the Service Directorate, we recommend that they are better suited to provide this information. Thank you.

On Fri, Feb 22, 2019 at 8:33 AM Wilkinson, Susan <susan_wilkinson@fws.gov> wrote:

Attached are the entries that are currently in the Unified Agenda system for these two rulemaking actions. Feel free to request any changes that you want made to these entries; we will be happy to update them in anyway. But the information that we primarily need is new publication dates.

Thanks!

On Fri, Feb 22, 2019 at 12:19 PM Wilkinson, Susan <susan_wilkinson@fws.gov> wrote:

Great, thanks!

On Fri, Feb 22, 2019 at 12:02 PM Hamilton, Charles <charles_hamilton@fws.gov> wrote:

Thanks Sue, We'll follow up later today.

On Fri, Feb 22, 2019 at 7:39 AM Wilkinson, Susan <susan_wilkinson@fws.gov> wrote:

Hi.

We need anticipated publication dates for proposed rules for these actions:

1018-BD62: Incidental Take of Marine Mammals During Specified Activities; Arctic Coastal Plain

1018-BD63: Incidental Take of Marine Mammals During Specified Activities; Cook Inlet

The current info we have is for dates that have past (from last year). We just need a month and year.

Thanks.

Susan Wilkinson
Division of Policy, Performance, and Management Programs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Headquarters

5275 Leesburg Pike, MS: BPHC
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803
703-358-2506

--

Regards,

Charles S. Hamilton

Special Assistant
Marine Mammals Management
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
1011 East Tudor Rd., MS-341
Anchorage, AK 99503
Voice: (907) 786-3804
FAX: (907) 786 - 3816

--

Susan Wilkinson
Division of Policy, Performance, and Management Programs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Headquarters

5275 Leesburg Pike, MS: BPHC
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803
703-358-2506

--

Susan Wilkinson
Division of Policy, Performance, and Management Programs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Headquarters

5275 Leesburg Pike, MS: BPHC
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803
703-358-2506

--

Regards,

Charles S. Hamilton
Special Assistant
Marine Mammals Management
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
1011 East Tudor Rd., MS-341
Anchorage, AK 99503
Voice: (907) 786-3804
FAX: (907) 786 - 3816

--

Susan Wilkinson
Division of Policy, Performance, and Management Programs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Headquarters

5275 Leesburg Pike, MS: BPHC

Falls Church, VA 22041-3803
703-358-2506

To: Clark, Karen[karen_clark@fws.gov]
From: Greg Siekaniec
Sent: 2019-02-22T17:29:18-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Re: need updates on two rules for the Unified Agenda
Received: 2019-02-22T17:29:25-05:00

No problem bothering me.... Cook Inlet dates have been agreed to by Margaret per the schedule Mary provided. ITR for seismic in Arctic will definitely need to publish this year but probably summer. Mary May have created a timing schedule since I requested one yesterday after our HQ call.

Also, the Pebble mine will likely have an IHA this year and I do not know of that requires publishing.

Greg

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 22, 2019, at 12:07 PM, Clark, Karen <karen_clark@fws.gov> wrote:

Hey Greg, Charlie and Patrick talked to me about this one. I told them they could pass it along to us given the conversations are happening directly between you and Margaret for both. As I understand the schedule for Cook Inlet- we have put our dates forward to HQ that the draft will be out of the Region, but that the rest of the process is up to HQ regarding timelines. Is that still the case? Do you have thoughts about the best dates to put forward, or should we talk with HQ about their preference?

And basically the same thoughts about the Coastal Plain seismic ITR- that one is in the works waiting on an amended application- but final date is dependent on HQ. Is that still the case?

Thanks, and sorry to bother you while you aren't feeling well.

Karen

Karen P. Clark
Deputy Regional Director
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service- Alaska Region
1011 E Tudor Rd, MS 374
Anchorage, AK 99503
karen_clark@fws.gov
907.786.3542 office
907.786.3493 direct
907.786.3306 fax

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

From: **Hamilton, Charles** <charles_hamilton@fws.gov>
Date: Fri, Feb 22, 2019 at 11:05 AM
Subject: Re: need updates on two rules for the Unified Agenda
To: Wilkinson, Susan <susan_wilkinson@fws.gov>
Cc: Diane Bowen <diane_bowen@fws.gov>, Putnam, Christopher <christopher_putnam@fws.gov>, Patrick Lemons <Patrick_Lemons@fws.gov>, Mary Colligan <mary_colligan@fws.gov>, Karen Clark <Karen_Clark@fws.gov>

Hi Sue,

After following up here in the Region, and given that timing of these actions is being considered by the Service Directorate, we recommend that they are better suited to provide this information. Thank you.

On Fri, Feb 22, 2019 at 8:33 AM Wilkinson, Susan <susan_wilkinson@fws.gov> wrote:

Attached are the entries that are currently in the Unified Agenda system for these two rulemaking actions. Feel free to request any changes that you want made to these entries; we will be happy to update them in anyway. But the information that we primarily need is new publication dates.
Thanks!

On Fri, Feb 22, 2019 at 12:19 PM Wilkinson, Susan <susan_wilkinson@fws.gov> wrote:

Great, thanks!

On Fri, Feb 22, 2019 at 12:02 PM Hamilton, Charles <charles_hamilton@fws.gov> wrote:

Thanks Sue, We'll follow up later today.

On Fri, Feb 22, 2019 at 7:39 AM Wilkinson, Susan <susan_wilkinson@fws.gov> wrote:

Hi.

We need anticipated publication dates for proposed rules for these actions:

1018-BD62: Incidental Take of Marine Mammals During Specified Activities; Arctic Coastal Plain

1018-BD63: Incidental Take of Marine Mammals During Specified Activities; Cook Inlet

0000013037

The current info we have is for dates that have past (from last year). We just need a month and year.

Thanks.

Susan Wilkinson
Division of Policy, Performance, and Management Programs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Headquarters

5275 Leesburg Pike, MS: BPHC
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803
703-358-2506

--

Regards,

Charles S. Hamilton
Special Assistant
Marine Mammals Management
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
1011 East Tudor Rd., MS-341
Anchorage, AK 99503
Voice: (907) 786-3804
FAX: (907) 786 - 3816

--

Susan Wilkinson
Division of Policy, Performance, and Management Programs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Headquarters

5275 Leesburg Pike, MS: BPHC
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803
703-358-2506

--

Susan Wilkinson
Division of Policy, Performance, and Management Programs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Headquarters

5275 Leesburg Pike, MS: BPHC
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803
703-358-2506

--

Regards,

Charles S. Hamilton
Special Assistant
Marine Mammals Management
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
1011 East Tudor Rd., MS-341
Anchorage, AK 99503
Voice: (907) 786-3804
FAX: (907) 786 - 3816

To: Lucille A Frerich[lucille_frerich@fws.gov]
From: Siekaniec, Greg
Sent: 2019-02-25T11:52:06-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: attachment
Received: 2019-02-25T11:52:48-05:00
02.28.19 Agenda - ASFWP Weekly AK Briefing (2).docx

From: andrea_travnicek@ios.doi.gov
Location: 3152 or call 877-440-7142, passcode (b) (5) CIP Leader - Andrea (b) (5) CIP
Importance: Normal
Subject: Updated invitation: Weekly Alaska meeting w/FWS @ Thu Feb 28, 2019 12:15pm - 1pm (AKST) (greg_siekaniec@fws.gov)
Start Date/Time: 2019-02-28T16:15:00-05:00
End Date/Time: 2019-02-28T17:00:00-05:00
[invite.ics](#)

This event has been changed.

[more details »](#)

Weekly Alaska meeting w/FWS

Agenda:

Welcome

- Introductions for Participants

Incidental Take Regulations/Incidental Harassment Authorizations

- Cook Inlet ITR for Hillcorp and AK LNG
- Pebble Mine IHA
- Coastal Plain (1002) area Seismic ITR

Refuges

- Izembek National Wildlife Refuge Land Exchange

Migratory Bird Program

- Proposed Rule for the annual spring/summer migratory bird subsistence harvest regulations

Closing

- Recap for any follow up

4:30pm Thursday works. FWS participants are below.

Margaret

Jim Kurth

Greg Siekaniec (via phone from Alaska)

When

Where

Calendar

Who

Changed: Thu Feb 28, 2019 12:15pm 1pm Alaska
Time Anchorage

3152 or call 877 440 7142, passcode (b) (5) CIP Leader
Andrea (b) (5) CIP ([map](#))

greg_siekaniec@fws.gov

•
•
•
•
•
•
•
•
•
•

andrea_travnicek@ios.doi.gov

tasha_l_robbins@ios.doi.gov

aurelia_skipwith@ios.doi.gov

margaret_e_everson@ios.doi.gov

stephen_wackowski@ios.doi.gov

karen_clark@fws.gov

jim_kurth@fws.gov

greg_siekaniec@fws.gov

roslyn_sellars@fws.gov

ionie_spence@fws.gov

Going (greg_siekaniec@fws.gov)? **Yes** **Maybe** **No** [more options »](#)

Invitation from [Google Calendar](#)

You are receiving this email at the account greg_siekaniec@fws.gov because you are subscribed for updated invitations on calendar greg_siekaniec@fws.gov.

To stop receiving these emails, please log in to <https://www.google.com/calendar/> and change your notification settings for this calendar.

0000013041

Forwarding this invitation could allow any recipient to modify your RSVP response. [Learn More.](#)

To: Drew Crane[drew_crane@fws.gov]
From: Siekaniec, Greg
Sent: 2019-02-26T17:41:08-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Arctic
Received: 2019-02-26T17:41:50-05:00
[Arctic Refuge Comments first few pages gs.docx](#)

Drew,
I attached the first several pages so you can get a sense what we discussed.

greg

To: Charisa Morris[charisa_morris@fws.gov]; Sellars, Roslyn[Roslyn_Sellars@fws.gov]; Lonie Spence[lonie_spence@fws.gov]
From: Siekaniec, Greg
Sent: 2019-02-26T17:59:57-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Fwd: Weekly Briefing Papers on Alaska Issues DTS# BP034816
Received: 2019-02-26T18:00:40-05:00
[ASFWP Weekly Meeting Issues BP 1002 Area Seismic ITRs MC ARH SB GS KC.docx](#)
[ASFWP Weekly Meeting Issues BP Cook Inlet ITRs MC ARH SB.docx](#)
[ASFWP Weekly Meeting Issues BP Izembek Refuge SB.docx](#)
[ASFWP Weekly Meeting Issues BP Pebble Mine MC SB.docx](#)
[ASFWP Weekly Meeting Issues BP MB Subsistence Harvest Regs_ejt.docx](#)

Please find the briefing papers (attached) for the requested (DTS# BP034816) Thursday conference call concerning Alaska issues. The standing agenda follows. We added this to Andrea's calendar invite so it likely does not show on other invitees. I realize this may be a bit clunky to begin with but we will get this worked out over the first few calls.

Regards,

greg

Weekly Briefing on Alaska Issues

Thursday, February 28, 2019

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Time: variable Thursday 28 February is 4:15 - 5:00 pm eastern

Place: Teleconference

Agenda:

Welcome

- Introductions for Participants

Incidental Take Regulations/Incidental Harassment Authorizations

- Cook Inlet ITR for Hillcorp and AK LNG
- Pebble Mine IHA
- Coastal Plain (1002) area Seismic ITR

Refuges

- Izembek National Wildlife Refuge Land Exchange

Migratory Bird Program

- Proposed Rule for the annual spring/summer migratory bird subsistence harvest regulations

Closing

- Recap for any follow up
- Thank you!

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

From: **Frerich, Lucille** <lucille_frerich@fws.gov>

Date: Tue, Feb 26, 2019 at 12:10 PM

Subject: Weekly Briefing Papers on Alaska Issues DTS# BP034816

To: Greg Siekaniec <greg_siekaniec@fws.gov>

Lucille Frerich

Executive Secretary, Regional Directors Office - Alaska Region

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

1011 E. Tudor Rd MS-381

Anchorage, AK 99503

907 786-3542 Fax: 907 786-3306

To: Siekaniec, Greg[greg_siekaniec@fws.gov]
Cc: Sellars, Roslyn[Roslyn_Sellars@fws.gov]; Ionie Spence[ionie_spence@fws.gov]
From: Morris, Charisa
Sent: 2019-02-26T18:01:06-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Re: Weekly Briefing Papers on Alaska Issues DTS# BP034816
Received: 2019-02-26T18:01:49-05:00

Thanks, Greg!
Ionie, please print these out for DO review. Thank you!

On Tue, Feb 26, 2019 at 6:00 PM Siekaniec, Greg <greg_siekaniec@fws.gov> wrote:

Please find the briefing papers (attached) for the requested (DTS# BP034816) Thursday conference call concerning Alaska issues. The standing agenda follows. We added this to Andrea's calendar invite so it likely does not show on other invitees. I realize this may be a bit clunky to begin with but we will get this worked out over the first few calls.

Regards,

greg

Weekly Briefing on Alaska Issues

Thursday, February 28, 2019

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Time: variable Thursday 28 February is 4:15 - 5:00 pm eastern

Place: Teleconference

Agenda:

Welcome

- Introductions for Participants

Incidental Take Regulations/Incidental Harassment Authorizations

- Cook Inlet ITR for Hillcorp and AK LNG
- Pebble Mine IHA
- Coastal Plain (1002) area Seismic ITR

Refuges

- Izembek National Wildlife Refuge Land Exchange

Migratory Bird Program

- Proposed Rule for the annual spring/summer migratory bird subsistence harvest regulations

Closing

- Recap for any follow up
- Thank you!

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

From: **Frerich, Lucille** <lucille_frerich@fws.gov>

Date: Tue, Feb 26, 2019 at 12:10 PM

Subject: Weekly Briefing Papers on Alaska Issues DTS# BP034816

To: Greg Siekaniec <greg_siekaniec@fws.gov>

Lucille Frerich
Executive Secretary, Regional Directors Office - Alaska Region
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
1011 E. Tudor Rd MS-381
Anchorage, AK 99503
907 786-3542 Fax: 907 786-3306

--

[Charisa Morris@fws.gov](mailto:Charisa_Morris@fws.gov) | Chief of Staff, Office of the Director | U.S. Fish & Wildlife
Service | 1849 C Street NW, Room 3348 | Washington, DC 20240 | (202) 208-3843 | For urgent matters,
please dial cell: 301-875-8937

To: Colligan, Mary[mary_colligan@fws.gov]
Cc: Karen Clark[karen_clark@fws.gov]
From: Greg Siekaniec
Sent: 2019-02-27T11:41:25-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Re: ITR Schedules
Received: 2019-02-27T11:41:31-05:00

Thank you Mary. These will work for our initial conversation on Thursday.
Greg

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 26, 2019, at 4:07 PM, Colligan, Mary <mary_colligan@fws.gov> wrote:

I have attached PDFs of the Cook Inlet and 1002 Seismic ITR schedules. They both should be printed out on tabloid (11 x 17). The 1002 is still pretty small font, but is readable (I think). Let me know if you want something different and I will give it a try!

Thanks

--

Mary Colligan
Assistant Regional Director
Fisheries and Ecological Services
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Alaska Region
1011 E. Tudor Road, MS-361
Anchorage, AK 99503
907-786-3505
cell: 907-223-5945

<1002 ITR Schedule.pdf>

<Cook Inlet Schedule.pdf>

To: Charisa_Morris@fws.gov[Charisa_Morris@fws.gov];
roslyn_sellars@fws.gov[roslyn_sellars@fws.gov]; ionie_spence@fws.gov[ionie_spence@fws.gov]; Karen
Clark[karen_clark@fws.gov]
From: Greg Siekaniec
Sent: 2019-02-27T11:47:28-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Fwd: ITR Schedules
Received: 2019-02-27T11:47:40-05:00
[ATT00001.htm](#)
[1002 ITR Schedule.pdf](#)
[Cook Inlet Schedule.pdf](#)
[ATT00002.htm](#)

Please find attached our first attempt to lay out a “visual” timeline for the Cook Inlet and Arctic Coastal Plain ITRs.

Mary advises what is best paper size for printing. The Coastal Plain is probably a bit small in font as it adjusts to the page based on how far the timeline runs into the future.

We can discuss tomorrow.

Greg

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Colligan, Mary" <mary_colligan@fws.gov>
Date: February 26, 2019 at 4:07:45 PM AKST
To: Gregory Siekaniec <greg_siekaniec@fws.gov>, Karen Clark
<karen_clark@fws.gov>, Sara Boario <sara_boario@fws.gov>, Amee Howard
<amee_howard@fws.gov>, Patrick Lemons <patrick_lemons@fws.gov>
Subject: ITR Schedules

I have attached PDFs of the Cook Inlet and 1002 Seismic ITR schedules. They both should be printed out on tabloid (11 x 17). The 1002 is still pretty small font, but is readable (I think). Let me know if you want something different and I will give it a try!

Thanks

--

Mary Colligan
Assistant Regional Director
Fisheries and Ecological Services
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Alaska Region
1011 E. Tudor Road, MS-361
Anchorage, AK 99503
907-786-3505
cell: 907-223-5945

0000013049

To: Greg Siekaniec[greg_siekaniec@fws.gov]; Donnise Hancock[donnise_hancock@fws.gov]
Cc: Roslyn Sellars[roslyn_sellars@fws.gov]; Ionie Spence[ionie_spence@fws.gov]; Karen Clark[karen_clark@fws.gov]
From: Morris, Charisa
Sent: 2019-02-27T11:50:34-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Re: ITR Schedules
Received: 2019-02-27T11:51:17-05:00

+ Donnise

Thank you, Greg!

Donnise, are you able to print these two items out on LARGE paper for us? Please make 3 copies, if so (and let me know, if not).

On Wed, Feb 27, 2019 at 11:47 AM Greg Siekaniec <greg_siekaniec@fws.gov> wrote:

Please find attached our first attempt to lay out a “visual” timeline for the Cook Inlet and Arctic Coastal Plain ITRs.

Mary advises what is best paper size for printing. The Coastal Plain is probably a bit small in font as it adjusts to the page based on how far the timeline runs into the future.

We can discuss tomorrow.

Greg

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Colligan, Mary" <mary_colligan@fws.gov>
Date: February 26, 2019 at 4:07:45 PM AKST
To: Gregory Siekaniec <greg_siekaniec@fws.gov>, Karen Clark <karen_clark@fws.gov>, Sara Boario <sara_boario@fws.gov>, Ameer Howard <amee_howard@fws.gov>, Patrick Lemons <patrick_lemons@fws.gov>
Subject: ITR Schedules

I have attached PDFs of the Cook Inlet and 1002 Seismic ITR schedules. They both should be printed out on tabloid (11 x 17). The 1002 is still pretty small font, but is readable (I think). Let me know if you want something different and I will give it a try!

Thanks

--

Mary Colligan
Assistant Regional Director
Fisheries and Ecological Services
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Alaska Region

0000013050

1011 E. Tudor Road, MS-361
Anchorage, AK 99503
907-786-3505
cell: 907-223-5945

--

Charisa_Morris@fws.gov | Chief of Staff, Office of the Director | U.S. Fish & Wildlife
Service | 1849 C Street NW, Room 3348 | Washington, DC 20240 | (202) 208-3843 | For urgent matters,
please dial cell: 301-875-8937

To: socheata_lor@fws.gov[socheata_lor@fws.gov];
steve_berendzen@fws.gov[steve_berendzen@fws.gov];
edward_decleva@fws.gov[edward_decleva@fws.gov]; Karen Clark[karen_clark@fws.gov]
From: Greg Siekaniec
Sent: 2019-02-27T14:37:04-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Ongoing Section 106 Letter
Received: 2019-02-27T14:37:18-05:00
[ATT00001.htm](#)
[Response to 122118 letter - NVVTG.pdf](#)
[NVVTG Comment Matrix 2-26-19 responses.pdf](#)
[ATT00002.htm](#)

FYI

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Hayes, Miriam (Nicole)" <mnhayes@blm.gov>
Date: February 27, 2019 at 10:03:47 AM AKST
To: Tonya Garnett <(b) (6)>
Cc: "judy.bittner@alaska.gov" <judy.bittner@alaska.gov>, "jfowler@achp.gov" <jfowler@achp.gov>, "greg.siekaniec@fws.gov" <greg.siekaniec@fws.gov>, Matthew Newman <mnewman@narf.org>, Wesley Furlong <wfurlong@narf.org>, "(b) (6)" <(b) (6)>, Pj Hanson <(b) (6)>, Myra Thumma <(b) (6)>, Tom McCulloch <tmcculloch@achp.gov>, Joseph Keeney <jkeeney@blm.gov>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Ongoing Section 106 Letter

Hi Tonya,
Please find the attached response to your 12 21 18 letter. A hard copy is being sent to you today.
Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you,
Nicole

Nicole Hayes
Project Coordinator
Bureau of Land Management
222 W. 7th Avenue #13
Anchorage, Alaska 99513
Desk: (907) 271-4354
Cell: (907) 290-0179

On Fri, Dec 21, 2018 at 3:10 PM Tonya Garnett <(b) (6)> wrote:

0000013052

Hi Nicole,

Attached is a letter in regards to the Section 106 Consultation.

Mahsi'
Tonya Garnett
Executive Director
Native Village of Venetie Tribal Government

To: Karen Clark[karen_clark@fws.gov]
From: Greg Siekaniec
Sent: 2019-02-27T17:18:35-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Fwd: Arctic Refuge Coastal Plain DEIS comments for 1002 ARD/RD review: Due 2/27
Received: 2019-02-27T17:18:48-05:00
[ATT00001.htm](#)
[Draft FWS Comments Coastal Plain Draft EIS 022219.docx](#)

You are correct. I was hoping to follow what Wendy notes as a schedule. I'm concerned it may result in a delay of comments being sent due to the review needed by HQ but it's the risk we have to take.

Greg

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Wendy Loya <wendy_loya@fws.gov>
Date: February 22, 2019 at 4:29:15 PM AKST
To: Mary Colligan <mary_colligan@fws.gov>, Socheata Lor <socheata_lor@fws.gov>, Eric Taylor <eric_taylor@fws.gov>, Sara Boario <sara_boario@fws.gov>, Karen Murphy <karen_a_murphy@fws.gov>, Greg Siekaniec <greg_siekaniec@fws.gov>, Karen Clark <karen_clark@fws.gov>, Bud Cribley <bud_cribley@fws.gov>
Cc: Stephanie Brady <stephanie_brady@fws.gov>, Drew Crane <drew_crane@fws.gov>, Melissa Burns <melissa_burns@fws.gov>
Subject: Arctic Refuge Coastal Plain DEIS comments for 1002 ARD/RD review: Due 2/27

Dear 1002 Leadership team,

Attached is the comment letter developed with input from more than a dozen of our staff subject matter experts. Drew Crane, Melissa Burns and Nicole Gustine have helped with editing, and will continue to do so, so thank you for making them available. The attached draft for your consideration does not reflect the high standards that our team normally meets before providing a document for your review, but we have done the best we can in the time available.

The timeline for your review has decreased from 5 to days to allow for review by the Assistant Secretary for Fish, Wildlife and Parks' office. Thus, we are asking that you return your comments to Drew Crane by COB Wednesday 27th.

Drew will lead the effort to make the recommended revisions Feb 28/Mar 1, and then work with Greg and Karen to submit the letter to Andrea Travnicek's office for review

the week of March 4-8th. I will work through their edits and any other feedback the 11-13th to meet the deadline for submission to BLM on the 13th.

I am out of the office Feb 25 – March 4th, so Drew, Steve B and John T are the POCs for 1002 related questions.

Staff had 2 weeks starting immediately after the furlough to review and respond to the DEIS, while catching up on other work, which was insufficient time to allow them to understand the Reasonably Foreseeable Development Scenario and then evaluate how impacts would occur across the 4 action alternatives (B, C, D1 and D2). Nevertheless, they did a great job bringing forth recommendations and additional scientific references to help improve the document and support the process.

As you review, note that Alternative D2 reflects the recommendations for stipulations and required operating procedures (ROPS) that our team put forward at the July Alternatives workshop. I hope you will help us ensure we have provided sufficient justification that conveys how the stips and ROPs under Alt D2 best balance between all of the purposes for the Refuge, including the new oil and gas purpose. There are a significant number of technical comments, so if you have limited time, we would be grateful for your help with the big picture.

Thank you for your time and help,
Wendy

Dr. Wendy M. Loya
Arctic Program Coordinator
US Fish and Wildlife Service, Office of Science Applications
Anchorage, Alaska
907.786.3532 (office)
907.227.2942 (mobile)

To: Melissa Beaumont[melissa_beaumont@fws.gov]; Charisa Morris[charisa_morris@fws.gov]
Cc: Karen Clark[karen_clark@fws.gov]
From: Siekaniec, Greg
Sent: 2019-02-28T20:23:18-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Fwd: BP for Gov Murkowski Brief - BP #034827 - final copy attached
Received: 2019-02-28T20:24:00-05:00
Briefing for Gov. Murkowski meeting.docx

Requested brief for meeting with former Governor Murkowski.
greg

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

From: **Frerich, Lucille** <[mailto:lucille_frerich@fws.gov]>
Date: Thu, Feb 28, 2019 at 4:19 PM
Subject: BP for Gov Murkowski Brief - BP #034827 - final copy attached
To: Greg Siekaniec <[mailto:greg_siekaniec@fws.gov]>, Karen Murphy <[mailto:karen_a_murphy@fws.gov]>

Lucille Frerich
Executive Secretary, Regional Directors Office - Alaska Region
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
1011 E. Tudor Rd MS-381
Anchorage, AK 99503
907 786-3542 Fax: 907 786-3306

To: Greg Siekaniec[greg_siekaniec@fws.gov]; Karen Clark[karen_clark@fws.gov]; Lucille Frerich[lucille_frerich@fws.gov]
Cc: Sara Boario[sara_boario@fws.gov]
From: Howard, Amee
Sent: 2019-03-01T15:34:29-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Draft Agenda for Weekly call with Assistant Secretary - for 03.07.19
Received: 2019-03-01T15:34:54-05:00
[03.07.19 Agenda - ASFWP Weekly AK Briefing.docx](#)

Hi All,
Please find attached a draft agenda for your use for next week's meeting.

Thanks so much!
Amee

--

Amee Howard

Congressional and State Liaison
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
Anchorage, Alaska
Office: (907)786-3509
Mobile: (907)229-8575

To: Greg Siekaniec[greg_siekaniec@fws.gov]; Karen Clark[karen_clark@fws.gov]; Lucille Frerich[lucille_frerich@fws.gov]
Cc: Sara Boario[sara_boario@fws.gov]
From: Howard, Amee
Sent: 2019-03-01T16:49:46-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Re: Draft Agenda for Weekly call with Assistant Secretary - for 03.07.19
Received: 2019-03-01T16:50:05-05:00
[03.07.19 Agenda - ASFWP Weekly AK Briefing v2.0.docx](#)

Hi All,
Updated draft agenda attached.

Thanks so much!
Amee

On Fri, Mar 1, 2019 at 11:34 AM Howard, Amee <amee_howard@fws.gov> wrote:

Hi All,
Please find attached a draft agenda for your use for next week's meeting.

Thanks so much!
Amee

--

Amee Howard
Congressional and State Liaison
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
Anchorage, Alaska
Office: (907)786-3509
Mobile: (907)229-8575

--

Amee Howard
Congressional and State Liaison
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
Anchorage, Alaska
Office: (907)786-3509
Mobile: (907)229-8575

To: Greg Siekaniec[greg_siekaniec@fws.gov]; Karen Clark[karen_clark@fws.gov]
Cc: Sara Boario[sara_boario@fws.gov]; Mary Colligan[mary_colligan@fws.gov]
From: Howard, Amee
Sent: 2019-03-01T17:17:05-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Fwd: One last pass at language for FY20 Budget BP
Received: 2019-03-01T17:17:18-05:00

Hi Greg and Karen,

FYI - Congressional and Legislative Affairs HQ is still working on FY20 Budget briefing papers for upcoming hearings. We just received a request to help with final bullet points from the Assistant Secretary through Devin at HQ. I have already sent the request to Mary and Co. Just want to keep everyone in the loop on the requests.

Thanks so much!
Amee

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

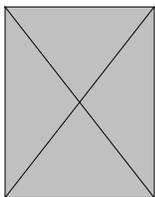
From: Helfrich, Devin <devin_helfrich@fws.gov>
Date: Fri, Mar 1, 2019 at 1:06 PM
Subject: Re: One last pass at language for FY20 Budget BP
To: Howard, Amee <amee_howard@fws.gov>
Cc: Sara Boario <sara_boario@fws.gov>, Mary Colligan <mary_colligan@fws.gov>, Patrick Lemons <Patrick_Lemons@fws.gov>

Hi team: we are being asked by the Assistant Secretary's office to come up with two more short bullet points ASAP for the Arctic NWR briefing paper that we are putting together -

- one bullet on any other Incidental Take Regulations being requested / prepared for the refuge (beyond polar bears) and timeline
- one bullet on the ESA BiOp for polar bears

Thank you!

Devin Helfrich
Congressional Legislative Affairs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Office Direct: (703) 358-2130
Mobile: (202) 365-5971



--

Amee Howard

Congressional and State Liaison

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Anchorage, Alaska

Office: (907)786-3509

Mobile: (907)229-8575

To: Greg Siekaniec[greg_siekaniec@fws.gov]; Karen Clark[karen_clark@fws.gov]; Mary Colligan[mary_colligan@fws.gov]; Sara Boario[sara_boario@fws.gov]
From: Howard, Ameer
Sent: 2019-03-01T18:41:56-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Quick Review - Re: One last pass at language for FY20 Budget BP
Received: 2019-03-01T18:42:14-05:00

Hi All,

Working from language sent by Mary. Please review and let me know your thoughts.

HQ Requested information below.

- one bullet on any other Incidental Take Regulations being requested / prepared for the refuge (beyond polar bears) and timeline

We are in discussions to identify the scope of research, monitoring and other activities proposed in the Arctic Refuge. Those discussions may culminate in a determination that additional Incidental Take Regulations (ITR) are appropriate, but it is too early to tell at this time. Of note, the Southern Beaufort Sea ITRs will expire in August 2021. We are working with the Alaska Oil and Gas Association on their intended application for a new set of 5-year ITRs. New ITRs would cover the area and activities similar to the existing ITRs as well as industry operations in the 1002 area.

- one bullet on the ESA BiOp for polar bears

BLM has requested initiation of ESA Section 7 consultation on their proposed federal action of establishing the leasing program in the 1002 area of Arctic Refuge.

Once I have your thumbs up, I will send the language onto Devin at HQ.

Thanks so much!

Ameer

On Fri, Mar 1, 2019 at 1:06 PM Helfrich, Devin <devin_helfrich@fws.gov> wrote:

Hi team: we are being asked by the Assistant Secretary's office to come up with two more short bullet points ASAP for the Arctic NWR briefing paper that we are putting together -

- one bullet on any other Incidental Take Regulations being requested / prepared for the refuge (beyond polar bears) and timeline
- one bullet on the ESA BiOp for polar bears

Thank you!

Devin Helfrich

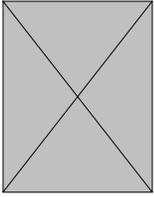
Congressional Legislative Affairs

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Office Direct: (703) 358-2130

0000013061

Mobile: (202) 365-5971



--

Amee Howard

Congressional and State Liaison

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Anchorage, Alaska

Office: (907)786-3509

Mobile: (907)229-8575

To: Greg Siekaniec[greg_siekaniec@fws.gov]
From: Frerich, Lucille
Sent: 2019-03-05T10:27:35-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Re: 1002 Coastal Plain Cover Letter and DEIS Comments
Received: 2019-03-05T10:28:23-05:00
DRAFT USFWS Cover Letter to BLM Coastal Plain DEIS.docx
DRAFT USFWS Comments to BLM Coastal Plain DEIS.docx

Here you go - sorry about that.

Lucille Frerich
Executive Secretary, Regional Directors Office - Alaska Region
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
1011 E. Tudor Rd MS-381
Anchorage, AK 99503
907 786-3542 Fax: 907 786-3306

On Mon, Mar 4, 2019 at 3:08 PM Greg Siekaniec <greg_siekaniec@fws.gov> wrote:

Hi Lucy,
Will you please send me an email with the cover letter and DEIS comments attached to you message that has the DTS number?

It seems to help move things along when I send them together.

Greg

Thanks,

Greg

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 4, 2019, at 2:32 PM, Frerich, Lucille <lucille_frerich@fws.gov> wrote:

The letter and attachments have been uploaded separately and the DTS # is DCN 069757

Lucy

Lucille Frerich
Executive Secretary, Regional Directors Office - Alaska Region
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
1011 E. Tudor Rd MS-381
Anchorage, AK 99503
907 786-3542 Fax: 907 786-3306

0000013063

On Mon, Mar 4, 2019 at 1:36 PM Clark, Karen <karen_clark@fws.gov> wrote:

Karen P. Clark
Deputy Regional Director
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service- Alaska Region
1011 E Tudor Rd, MS 374
Anchorage, AK 99503
karen_clark@fws.gov
907.786.3542 office
907.786.3493 direct
907.786.3306 fax

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

From: **Greg Siekaniec** <greg_siekaniec@fws.gov>
Date: Sun, Mar 3, 2019 at 3:25 PM
Subject: 1002 Coastal Plain Cover Letter and DEIS Comments
To: <margaret_e_everson@fws.gov>, <jim_kurth@fws.gov>, Bud Cribley
<bud_cribley@fws.gov>
Cc: Karen Clark <karen_clark@fws.gov>

Good Afternoon,

We Please find the attached document that is a combined cover letter and comments on the Draft EIS for the Arctic Refuge Coastal Plain Oil and Gas Lease. I plan to provide the cover letter with the comments attached when transmitted to BLM. They are combined here for simplicity and ease of review.

I'm available to discuss and will have Lucy put them in DTS tomorrow morning. I have not provided them beyond FWS Directors Office as I thought you would like to review prior to Assistant Secretary.

I will look forward to our conversations as we intend to provide these by 13 of March as requested by BLM.

Regards,

Greg

To: Frerich, Lucille[lucille_frerich@fws.gov]
From: Greg Siekaniec
Sent: 2019-03-05T11:01:36-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Re: 1002 Coastal Plain Cover Letter and DEIS Comments
Received: 2019-03-05T11:01:43-05:00

No need to apologize. Thank you.

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 5, 2019, at 6:27 AM, Frerich, Lucille <lucille_frerich@fws.gov> wrote:

Here you go - sorry about that.

Lucille Frerich
Executive Secretary, Regional Directors Office - Alaska Region
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
1011 E. Tudor Rd MS-381
Anchorage, AK 99503
907 786-3542 Fax: 907 786-3306

On Mon, Mar 4, 2019 at 3:08 PM Greg Siekaniec <greg_siekaniec@fws.gov> wrote:

Hi Lucy,
Will you please send me an email with the cover letter and DEIS comments attached to you message that has the DTS number?

It seems to help move things along when I send them together.

Greg

Thanks,

Greg

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 4, 2019, at 2:32 PM, Frerich, Lucille <lucille_frerich@fws.gov> wrote:

The letter and attachments have been uploaded separately and the DTS # is DCN 069757

Lucy

Lucille Frerich
Executive Secretary, Regional Directors Office - Alaska Region
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
1011 E. Tudor Rd MS-381
Anchorage, AK 99503
907 786-3542 Fax: 907 786-3306

On Mon, Mar 4, 2019 at 1:36 PM Clark, Karen <karen_clark@fws.gov> wrote:

Karen P. Clark
Deputy Regional Director
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service- Alaska Region
1011 E Tudor Rd, MS 374
Anchorage, AK 99503
karen_clark@fws.gov
907.786.3542 office
907.786.3493 direct
907.786.3306 fax

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

From: **Greg Siekaniec** <greg_siekaniec@fws.gov>
Date: Sun, Mar 3, 2019 at 3:25 PM
Subject: 1002 Coastal Plain Cover Letter and DEIS Comments
To: <margaret_e_everson@fws.gov>, <jim_kurth@fws.gov>, Bud Cribley
<bud_cribley@fws.gov>
Cc: Karen Clark <karen_clark@fws.gov>

Good Afternoon,

We Please find the attached document that is a combined cover letter and comments on the Draft EIS for the Arctic Refuge Coastal Plain Oil and Gas Lease. I plan to provide the cover letter with the comments attached when transmitted to BLM. They are combined here for simplicity and ease of review.

I'm available to discuss and will have Lucy put them in DTS tomorrow morning. I have not provided them beyond FWS Directors Office as I thought you would like to review prior to Assistant Secretary.

I will look forward to our conversations as we intend to provide these by 13 of

March as requested by BLM.

Regards,

Greg

<DRAFT_USFWS Cover Letter to BLM_Coastal Plain DEIS.docx>

<DRAFT_USFWS Comments to BLM_Coastal Plain DEIS.docx>

To: Charisa_Morris@fws.gov[Charisa_Morris@fws.gov];
roslyn_sellars@fws.gov[roslyn_sellars@fws.gov]; ionie_spence@fws.gov[ionie_spence@fws.gov]
From: Greg Siekaniec
Sent: 2019-03-06T09:23:24-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Fwd: Weekly BP updates have been loaded - BP034816 - copies attached
Received: 2019-03-06T09:23:38-05:00
[ATT00001.htm](#)
[ASFWP Weekly Meeting Issues BP Cook Inlet ITRs.docx](#)
[ASFWP Weekly Meeting Issues BP 1002 Area Seismic ITRs.docx](#)
[ATT00002.htm](#)
[ASFWP Weekly Meeting Issues BP Pebble Mine.docx](#)
[ATT00003.htm](#)
[ASFWP Weekly Meeting Issues BP Sitka and Hoonah.docx](#)
[ATT00004.htm](#)

FYI - I also forwarded these to Jim Kurth, Margaret, and Bud.
Trying to keep everyone in the loop.

Greg

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Greg Siekaniec <greg_siekaniec@fws.gov>
Date: March 5, 2019 at 5:35:15 PM AKST
To: jim_kurth@fws.gov, margaret_e_everson@fws.gov, Bud Cribley
<bud_cribley@fws.gov>
Cc: Karen Clark <karen_clark@fws.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Weekly BP updates have been loaded - BP034816 - copies attached

Please find this weeks updated Alaska briefings.
Greg

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Frerich, Lucille" <lucille_frerich@fws.gov>
Date: March 5, 2019 at 2:21:06 PM AKST
To: Karen Clark <karen_clark@fws.gov>, Greg Siekaniec
<greg_siekaniec@fws.gov>
Cc: Ameer Howard <amee_howard@fws.gov>
Subject: Weekly BP updates have been loaded - BP034816 - copies attached

Lucille Frerich
Executive Secretary, Regional Directors Office - Alaska Region
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
1011 E. Tudor Rd MS-381
Anchorage, AK 99503
907 786-3542 Fax: 907 786-3306

To: Greg Siekaniec[greg_siekaniec@fws.gov]; Karen Clark[karen_clark@fws.gov]
From: Howard, Amee
Sent: 2019-03-06T14:15:46-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Discussion Topics for Weekly meeting with Assistant Secretary
Received: 2019-03-06T14:16:08-05:00
03.06.19 - ASFWP Weekly Meeting Alaska Updates.docx

Hi Greg and Karen,

I pulled together discussion topics for you to have for the Weekly Alaska Briefing with Andrea T. and Margaret. I did include short summaries of the briefing paper topics. This way you have the information on hand in case questions outside of the BPs come up.

Take a look and let me know if there are any additional topics you would like me to add summaries for.

Thanks so much!
Amee

--

Amee Howard

Congressional and State Liaison
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
Anchorage, Alaska
Office: (907)786-3509
Mobile: (907)229-8575

To: Bud Cribley[bud_cribley@fws.gov]
From: Siekaniec, Greg
Sent: 2019-03-07T15:02:38-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Fwd: Weekly BP updates have been loaded - BP034816 - copies attached
Received: 2019-03-07T15:03:23-05:00
[ASFWP Weekly Meeting Issues BP Cook Inlet ITRs.docx](#)
[ASFWP Weekly Meeting Issues BP 1002 Area Seismic ITRs.docx](#)
[ASFWP Weekly Meeting Issues BP Pebble Mine.docx](#)
[ASFWP Weekly Meeting Issues BP Sitka and Hoonah.docx](#)

FYI - these were sent earlier this week.

greg

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

From: **Greg Siekaniec** <greg_siekaniec@fws.gov>
Date: Tue, Mar 5, 2019 at 5:35 PM
Subject: Fwd: Weekly BP updates have been loaded - BP034816 - copies attached
To: <jim_kurth@fws.gov>, <margaret_e_everson@fws.gov>, Bud Cribley
<bud_cribley@fws.gov>
Cc: Karen Clark <karen_clark@fws.gov>

Please find this weeks updated Alaska briefings.

Greg

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Frerich, Lucille" <lucille_frerich@fws.gov>
Date: March 5, 2019 at 2:21:06 PM AKST
To: Karen Clark <karen_clark@fws.gov>, Greg Siekaniec <greg_siekaniec@fws.gov>
Cc: Ameer Howard <amee_howard@fws.gov>
Subject: **Weekly BP updates have been loaded - BP034816 - copies attached**

Lucille Frerich
Executive Secretary, Regional Directors Office - Alaska Region
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
1011 E. Tudor Rd MS-381
Anchorage, AK 99503
907 786-3542 Fax: 907 786-3306

To: Frazer, Gary[gary_frazer@fws.gov]
From: Siekaniec, Greg
Sent: 2019-03-07T17:27:58-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Fwd: 1002 ITR and Cook Inlet Schedules
Received: 2019-03-07T17:28:42-05:00
[1002 ITR Schedule.pdf](#)
[Cook Inlet Schedule.pdf](#)

Here are the view at a glance and next will be the cook inlet brief with the word document version of schedule.

greg

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

From: **Frerich, Lucille** <lucille_frerich@fws.gov>
Date: Thu, Mar 7, 2019 at 1:26 PM
Subject: 1002 ITR and Cook Inlet Schedules
To: Greg Siekaniec <greg_siekaniec@fws.gov>

Lucille Frerich
Executive Secretary, Regional Directors Office - Alaska Region
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
1011 E. Tudor Rd MS-381
Anchorage, AK 99503
907 786-3542 Fax: 907 786-3306

To: Greg Siekaniec[greg_siekaniec@fws.gov]
From: Decleva, Edward
Sent: 2019-03-08T09:43:47-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Re: Arctic Coastal Plain, BLM /USFWS cultural resources roles
Received: 2019-03-08T09:44:06-05:00

Hi Greg,

Working with BLM yesterday, we decided to include it as an attachment to the Section 106 Programmatic Agreement, which is to be a supporting doc to the EIS/ROD.

So far, everything is going well on this front - that is, BLM is on the same page with me.

Thank you for your time.

Ed

Edward J. DeCleva
Regional Historic Preservation Officer
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Alaska Region
1011 E Tudor Rd, MS-235
Anchorage, AK 99503

edward_decleva@fws.gov
907-786-3399

On Fri, Mar 8, 2019 at 5:39 AM Greg Siekaniec <greg_siekaniec@fws.gov> wrote:

Ed,

I'm comfortable with what ever type of document best defines the deliverables and management agreed to with or among the parties. It can be a signed MOU or a signed work plan in my opinion. Should it accompany the EIS as an addendum or supporting document?

Thanks for helping define our role and how we will administer cultural resources as a result of the oil and gas program.

Greg

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 5, 2019, at 12:27 PM, Decleva, Edward <edward_decleva@fws.gov> wrote:

Hi Greg,

BLM seems receptive to the cultural resources responsibilities and roles as I had previously discussed with you.

I meet with the BLM Arctic Field Office Archeologist and BLM State Archeologist this Thursday to better define these roles and procedures.

0000013073

Attached is a very rough draft of what I have in mind.

Before I get too far, I would like to know if you are comfortable with a Memorandum of Understanding format to document these associated roles and procedures. I can easily go another direction if you prefer.

Please keep in mind that the attached is populated mostly with my thoughts and at this stage it will serve only as a device to help me and BLM's archeologists in sketching out these topics. Again, the main purpose of this is to request input from you on what instrument you want me to capture it all in.

When we get the roles and procedures more clearly defined, I will distribute to the refuge and you for substantive review.

Thank you,
Ed

Edward J. DeCleva
Regional Historic Preservation Officer
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Alaska Region
1011 E Tudor Rd, MS-235
Anchorage, AK 99503

edward_decleva@fws.gov
907-786-3399

<Arctic CP MOU.docx>

To: Frazer, Gary[gary_frazer@fws.gov]
Cc: Gregory Siekaniec[gregory_siekaniec@fws.gov]; Karen Clark[Karen_Clark@fws.gov]
From: Colligan, Mary
Sent: 2019-03-11T15:22:13-04:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Re: 1002 ITR and Cook Inlet Schedules
Received: 2019-03-11T15:22:33-04:00

Thanks Gary. I am working on this now. The current schedule will just include 1002 and Cook Inlet ITRs. We will add Pebble, Hoonah and Sitka IHA schedules as soon as we figure them out! We appreciate you keeping us in the loop.

On Mon, Mar 11, 2019 at 8:33 AM Frazer, Gary <gary_frazer@fws.gov> wrote:

Greg -- Don't know why Andrea sent this to me, but she did. I asked her this morning whether she had a model for what she was looking for, and she didn't. She just said she wanted everything to fit on one page, she wanted it simpler, and she wanted it to show when things would be to her and when she had to act on them. That's the best description of the rock that she could give me; sorry to be the messenger.

Her reference to 3 ITRs is based on her understanding that an ITR for Pebble mine will be coming this year, too. Don't know whether you still expect that one, too. -- GDF

Gary Frazer
Assistant Director -- Ecological Services
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
(202) 208-4646

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

From: **Andrea Travnicek** <andrea_travnicek@ios.doi.gov>
Date: Sat, Mar 9, 2019 at 12:55 PM
Subject: Re: 1002 ITR and Cook Inlet Schedules
To: Frazer, Gary <gary_frazer@fws.gov>

Was looking for a one pager with all ITRs timelines on same page. That way one sheet to track all three or any others.

Be great to have early next week.

Thanks
Andrea

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 7, 2019, at 6:17 PM, Frazer, Gary <gary_frazer@fws.gov> wrote:

Andrea -- I understand that you discussed the attached with Greg Siekaniec this afternoon, but I'm forwarding just in case.

I saw that Gina separately forwarded the Gantt charts for our ESA regs and policies. -- Gary

Gary Frazer
Assistant Director -- Ecological Services
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
(202) 208-4646

----- Forwarded message -----
From: **Siekaniec, Greg** <greg_siekaniec@fws.gov>
Date: Thu, Mar 7, 2019 at 3:28 PM
Subject: Fwd: 1002 ITR and Cook Inlet Schedules
To: Frazer, Gary <gary_frazer@fws.gov>

Here are the view at a glance and next will be the cook inlet brief with the word document version of schedule.
greg

----- Forwarded message -----
From: **Frerich, Lucille** <lucille_frerich@fws.gov>
Date: Thu, Mar 7, 2019 at 1:26 PM
Subject: 1002 ITR and Cook Inlet Schedules
To: Greg Siekaniec <greg_siekaniec@fws.gov>

Lucille Frerich
Executive Secretary, Regional Directors Office - Alaska Region
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
1011 E. Tudor Rd MS-381
Anchorage, AK 99503
907 786-3542 Fax: 907 786-3306

<1002 ITR Schedule.pdf>

<Cook Inlet Schedule.pdf>

<ASFWP Weekly Meeting Issues BP Cook Inlet ITRs.docx>

--
Mary Colligan
Assistant Regional Director
Fisheries and Ecological Services

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Alaska Region
1011 E. Tudor Road, MS-361
Anchorage, AK 99503
907-786-3505
cell: 907-223-5945

To: Greg Siekaniec[greg_siekaniec@fws.gov]; Karen Clark[karen_clark@fws.gov]; Mary Colligan[mary_colligan@fws.gov]
Cc: Patrick Lemons[Patrick_Lemons@fws.gov]; Lucille Frerich[lucille_frerich@fws.gov]; Sara Boario[sara_boario@fws.gov]
From: Howard, Amee
Sent: 2019-03-11T17:18:13-04:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Agenda for ASFWP Weekly AK Briefing
Received: 2019-03-11T17:18:30-04:00
[Agenda - ASFWP Weekly AK Briefing.docx](#)

Hi All,

Please find attached an Agenda for the weekly meeting with the Assistant Secretary. I simplified it a bit so that it is easy to update and use each week.

Thanks so much!

Amee

--

Amee Howard

Congressional and State Liaison

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Anchorage, Alaska

Office: (907)786-3509

Mobile: (907)229-8575

To: Greg Siekaniec[greg_siekaniec@fws.gov]; Karen Clark[karen_clark@fws.gov]; Colligan, Mary[mary_colligan@fws.gov]
From: Lemons, Patrick
Sent: 2019-03-11T17:27:48-04:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Fwd: 1002 ITR and Cook Inlet Schedules
Received: 2019-03-11T17:28:00-04:00
Table of Timelines for ITRs and IHAs - Weekley BP for ASFWP - Mar 11.docx

Hi Greg,

Attached is the document we put together in response to Andrea's request. Let us know if you need anything else or if you'd like us to transmit it up to HQ/DOI.

Patrick

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

From: Colligan, Mary <mary_colligan@fws.gov>
Date: Mon, Mar 11, 2019 at 8:41 AM
Subject: Fwd: 1002 ITR and Cook Inlet Schedules
To: Patrick Lemons <patrick_lemons@fws.gov>

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

From: Frazer, Gary <gary_frazer@fws.gov>
Date: Mon, Mar 11, 2019 at 8:33 AM
Subject: Fwd: 1002 ITR and Cook Inlet Schedules
To: Gregory Siekaniec <gregory_siekaniec@fws.gov>
Cc: Karen Clark <Karen_Clark@fws.gov>, Colligan, Mary <mary_colligan@fws.gov>

Greg -- Don't know why Andrea sent this to me, but she did. I asked her this morning whether she had a model for what she was looking for, and she didn't. She just said she wanted everything to fit on one page, she wanted it simpler, and she wanted it to show when things would be to her and when she had to act on them. That's the best description of the rock that she could give me; sorry to be the messenger.

Her reference to 3 ITRs is based on her understanding that an ITR for Pebble mine will be coming this year, too. Don't know whether you still expect that one, too. -- GDF

*Gary Frazer
Assistant Director -- Ecological Services
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
(202) 208-4646*

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

From: **Andrea Travnicek** <andrea_travnicek@ios.doi.gov>
Date: Sat, Mar 9, 2019 at 12:55 PM
Subject: Re: 1002 ITR and Cook Inlet Schedules
To: Frazer, Gary <gary_frazer@fws.gov>

Was looking for a one pager with all ITRs timelines on same page. That way one sheet to track all three or any others.

Be great to have early next week.

Thanks
Andrea

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 7, 2019, at 6:17 PM, Frazer, Gary <gary_frazer@fws.gov> wrote:

Andrea -- I understand that you discussed the attached with Greg Siekaniec this afternoon, but I'm forwarding just in case.
I saw that Gina separately forwarded the Gantt charts for our ESA regs and policies. -- Gary

Gary Frazer
Assistant Director -- Ecological Services
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
(202) 208-4646

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

From: **Siekaniec, Greg** <greg_siekaniec@fws.gov>
Date: Thu, Mar 7, 2019 at 3:28 PM
Subject: Fwd: 1002 ITR and Cook Inlet Schedules
To: Frazer, Gary <gary_frazer@fws.gov>

Here are the view at a glance and next will be the cook inlet brief with the word document version of schedule.

greg

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

From: **Frerich, Lucille** <lucille_frerich@fws.gov>
Date: Thu, Mar 7, 2019 at 1:26 PM
Subject: 1002 ITR and Cook Inlet Schedules
To: Greg Siekaniec <greg_siekaniec@fws.gov>

Lucille Frerich
Executive Secretary, Regional Directors Office - Alaska Region
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
1011 E. Tudor Rd MS-381
Anchorage, AK 99503
907 786-3542 Fax: 907 786-3306

<1002 ITR Schedule.pdf>

<Cook Inlet Schedule.pdf>

<ASFWP Weekly Meeting Issues BP Cook Inlet ITRs.docx>

--

Mary Colligan
Assistant Regional Director
Fisheries and Ecological Services
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Alaska Region
1011 E. Tudor Road, MS-361
Anchorage, AK 99503
907-786-3505
cell: 907-223-5945

--

Patrick Lemons, Ph.D.
Chief, Marine Mammals Management
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
1011 East Tudor Road
Anchorage, AK 99503
Work: 907-786-3668
Cell: 907-717-6787
Fax: 907-786-3816
e-mail: patrick_lemons@fws.gov

To: andrea_travnicek@ios.doi.gov[andrea_travnicek@ios.doi.gov]
Cc: Karen Clark[karen_clark@fws.gov]; patrick_lemons@fws.gov[patrick_lemons@fws.gov]
From: Greg Siekaniec
Sent: 2019-03-11T19:39:54-04:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Fwd: 1002 ITR and Cook Inlet Schedules
Received: 2019-03-11T19:39:55-04:00
[ATT00001.htm](#)
[Table of Timelines for ITRs and IHAs - Weekley BP for ASFWP - Mar 11.docx](#)

Andrea,

Thank you for the call/discussion this afternoon. Gary Frazer passed on that you are looking for a compiled view of multiple projects. We are trying to put together a schedule that reflects your interest in a “quick view” to see what timelines are and who has the responsibility during the identified periods.

Please take a look at the attached and see if this will work. We can add projects as we receive completed applications and work through an agreed timeline with project proponents.

Best,

Greg

To: Stephen Wackowski[stephen_wackowski@ios.doi.gov]
From: Siekaniec, Greg
Sent: 2019-03-12T13:20:24-04:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Re: ASAP please advise
Received: 2019-03-12T13:21:09-04:00

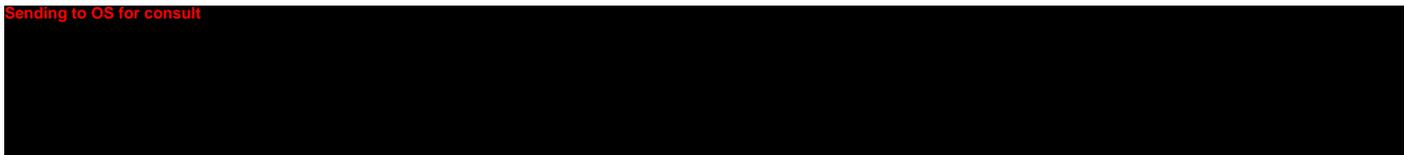
Steve,

Suppressed scientific concerns regarding Arctic Refuge is simply overstated. We were requested to investigate what our information gaps are regarding development of a series of Environmental Impact Statements that will lead to an oil and gas program for Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. We did this with the understanding that existing, new, and/or much more current information will best inform EIS development. This was not intended to be a "list" of science that informs only a leasing EIS. Followup environmental planning will rely on both existing information and new information gathered based on the priorities defined as we undertake new or revised research investigations and studies. This will also be informed by proposed activities resulting from knowledge gained in the leasing EIS. We continue to work within our own resource capacity and with our longstanding partners as to the conduct of priority science on Arctic National Wildlife Refuge or science related to the development of an oil and gas program for the 1002 area of the Refuge. None of our science concerns have been suppressed within the Agency or Department.

greg

On Tue, Mar 12, 2019 at 8:01 AM Stephen Wackowski <stephen_wackowski@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

Sending to OS for consult



Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 12, 2019, at 6:22 AM, Vander Voort, Faith <faith_vandervoort@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

Sending to OS for consult



On Tue, Mar 12, 2019 at 10:01 AM Faith Vander Voort <faith_vandervoort@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

Steve and Joe,
Please see the inquiry below and advise on how to respond. Thank you.

Begin forwarded message:

0000013083

From: "Knickmeyer, Ellen" <EKnickmeyer@ap.org>
Date: March 12, 2019 at 9:57:50 AM EDT
To: "Vander Voort, Faith" <faith_vandervoort@ios.doi.gov>,
"heather_swift@ios.doi.gov" <heather_swift@ios.doi.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] FW: PRESS RELEASE: Arctic Refuge Drilling
Scientific Concerns Suppressed

Hi, there _ can I get a response to this allegation, which is that Interior suppressed warnings about the Arctic drilling project, including one from Fish and Wildlife Service?

Thanks much.

Ellen

From: PEER <info@peer.org>
Sent: Tuesday, March 12, 2019 8:55 AM
To: Knickmeyer, Ellen <EKnickmeyer@ap.org>
Subject: PRESS RELEASE: Arctic Refuge Drilling Scientific Concerns
Suppressed

Having trouble with images or links? [Click here](#) to view the release on our website and also try adding us (info@peer.org) to your address book.

For Immediate Release: Tuesday, March 12, 2019

Contact: Susan Sargent (202) 265-7337

ARCTIC REFUGE DRILLING SCIENTIFIC CONCERNS SUPPRESSED

Memos Outlining Major Environmental and Public Health Information Gaps Buried

Washington, DC Nearly a score of expert assessments of critical unknowns about impacts from oil and gas drilling in the Arctic Refuge Coastal Plain were hidden from public view and not used in the official environmental review now nearing its conclusion, according to Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility (PEER). The group today posted the missing memos and is pressing for an investigation to identify who ordered them to not be released or even acknowledged.

In a summary memo dated February 26, 2018, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) Alaska Regional Director Gregory Siekaniec outlined the "Research Gaps identified by [his] and other agency technical experts to inform Arctic Refuge Coastal Plain Oil and Gas Program Environmental Impact Statement" (EIS). The 18 memos "identify the types of information" needed for "planning, developing, and managing an oil and gas program in the 1002 area" of the refuge:

"Primary topics for the Resource Assessments include: soils, permafrost, wetlands, & vegetation; coastal resources; climate & snow; air quality; water resources; acoustic environment; contaminants; oil spills; caribou; other terrestrial mammals; fisheries; birds; subsistence; public health; visitor use; cultural resources; and paleontological resources."

These assessments of information gaps were not included in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement whose public comment period ends tomorrow. In addition, the memos were not produced in response to on-target Freedom of Information Act requests, nor were they listed as withheld.

"The Trump administration apparently does not want to admit that it is flying blind in opening one of the most sensitive places on the planet to petroleum development," stated PEER Executive Director Tim Whitehouse, a former enforcement attorney with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, pointing out that the deliberate exclusion of the known unknowns may make

the EIS legally vulnerable. "Reliance upon alternative facts may work on talk shows but they won't stand up in court."

Identified information needs cover an array of basic topics, including:

- There is no current baseline data for any of the natural resources that may be impacted;
- There has not been a vegetation survey in 25 years; and
- There is no oil spill recovery capacity or plan to contain other pollutants.

The senior official overseeing this effort is Acting Interior Secretary David Bernhardt. In Bernhardt's previous stint at Interior during the GW Bush years, his office changed the FWS biological assessment, making more than dozen material alterations to minimize predicted impacts. These changes were ascribed to "typographical errors." PEER is asking Interior's Office of Inspector General (IG) to investigate.

"Trump's Interior Department is in a panicked rush to open the Arctic to drilling," added Whitehouse, noting that Interior is trying to hurry the leasing schedule. "Ignoring these gaping information gaps constitutes resource management malpractice."

###

Look at each of the Information Gap memos

Read the PEER IG complaint

View the Draft EIS

Revisit Bernhardt falsifying 2001 Arctic Refuge assessment

[Manage Subscription](#)

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.

--

Faith C. Vander Voort
Department of the Interior

To: Travnicek, Andrea[andrea_travnicek@ios.doi.gov]
Cc: Jim Kurth[jim_kurth@fws.gov]; Bud Cribley[bud_cribley@fws.gov]; Margaret Everson[margaret_e_everson@fws.gov]
From: Siekaniec, Greg
Sent: 2019-03-12T14:00:51-04:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Fwd: Revised comment letter addressing Andrea's questions/recommendations
Received: 2019-03-12T14:01:39-04:00
DRAFT USFWS Comments to BLM Coastal Plain DEIS revised 031219 (3).docx

Andrea,
Attached are the revised comments for the Draft EIS we discussed yesterday. I worked with Wendy to review the revisions and agree with her that your thoughts helped us add clarity to the comments and cleaned up some of the rationale statements.

I worked with Maureen to schedule a call for 2:00 pm (Alaska) today. Please use the same number as yesterday when you are available (907-786-3314).

Regards,

Greg

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

From: Wendy Loya <wendy_loya@fws.gov>
Date: Tue, Mar 12, 2019 at 9:50 AM
Subject: Revised comment letter addressing Andrea's questions/recommendations
To: Greg Siekaniec <greg_siekaniec@fws.gov>

Hi Greg,

Attached is a revised draft of the letter that I believe addresses Andrea's helpful questions and concerns. The points we addressed include:

1. Changing language about FWS as a co-lead;
2. Describing rationale setback distances along rivers, including Wild and Scenic Rivers;
3. Ensuring that our comments did not characterize the coastal plain as Designated Wilderness, while retaining acknowledgement that wilderness characteristics are an important human value for the area as well as important habitat characteristic;
4. Better describing the rationale for a NSO setback to minimize visual and acoustic degradation along the northern edge of the Designated Wilderness Boundary, and clarifying that the recommended distance was based on existing information on in-air sound travel for another

development on the northslope, and that that value could be refined with further analysis;

5. Removing reference to prohibiting temporary infrastructure in river setbacks;
6. Clarifying that our request to include more information on moose was in direct response to concerns raised by subsistence hunters in Kaktovik and that we can provide the information we recommend including;
7. We recommended the DEIS refer to a recently produced study by scientists on the Porcupine Caribou Technical Committee, which will ensure the DEIS is based on the best available science and acknowledges the input from our Canadian partners towards informing management of the Porcupine Caribou Herd. Throughout the document, our subject matter experts have tried to highlight studies that the DEIS team may find useful in establishing the baseline and best quantifying impacts. These include studies from the 1980s that document caribou response to development in areas previously undisturbed, as is the case for the Coastal Plain;
8. Our comments regarding ROP 16 had language about exploratory drilling being prohibited in both fish and non-fish bearing waters. We would like to include this recommendation as a means of ensuring that all the purposes of the Refuge are achieved, and we have added language that explains the justification for protection of river corridors which typically contain higher diversity gradients than the surrounding landscape;
9. The snow depth and density stipulations were revised to refer to the Alaska DNR protocols and we removed some redundant points
10. We clarified that for ROP 28 Ecological Mapping, the number of years of studies should be determined by the species/habitat experts and not be a standard value. As I mentioned, these products are typically requested by industry and completed by ecological experts at local consulting companies, and the standards are very high. This recommendation acknowledges how this ROP has been applied since originally drafted for NPRA; and
11. I have added language to indicate that while water withdrawal guidelines are established by Alaska DNR, we are specifically asking that springs be included in ROP 8. Also, due to the limited surface water availability, water use from rivers may be considered if proven not to have a detrimental impact on Refuge purposes.

I believe I captured her full list of questions in my notes, and hope I have made changes that make this a better, stronger set of comments to aid BLM in completing the Final EIS.

Thank you,

Wendy

Dr. Wendy M. Loya

Arctic Program Coordinator

US Fish and Wildlife Service, Office of Science Applications

Anchorage, Alaska

907.786.3532 (office)

907.227.2942 (mobile)

To: Jim Kurth[jim_kurth@fws.gov]
From: Siekaniec, Greg
Sent: 2019-03-12T14:18:10-04:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Re: Revised comment letter addressing Andrea's questions/recommendations
Received: 2019-03-12T14:18:52-04:00

yes if accepted.

On Tue, Mar 12, 2019 at 10:13 AM Jim Kurth <jim_kurth@fws.gov> wrote:

Are you good with these changes?

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 12, 2019, at 2:00 PM, Siekaniec, Greg <greg_siekaniec@fws.gov> wrote:

Andrea,
Attached are the revised comments for the Draft EIS we discussed yesterday. I worked with Wendy to review the revisions and agree with her that your thoughts helped us add clarity to the comments and cleaned up some of the rationale statements.

I worked with Maureen to schedule a call for 2:00 pm (Alaska) today. Please use the same number as yesterday when you are available (907-786-3314).

Regards,

Greg

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

From: Wendy Loya <wendy_loya@fws.gov>
Date: Tue, Mar 12, 2019 at 9:50 AM
Subject: Revised comment letter addressing Andrea's questions/recommendations
To: Greg Siekaniec <greg_siekaniec@fws.gov>

Hi Greg,

Attached is a revised draft of the letter that I believe addresses Andrea's helpful questions and concerns. The points we addressed include:

1. Changing language about FWS as a co-lead;

2. Describing rationale setback distances along rivers, including Wild and Scenic Rivers;
3. Ensuring that our comments did not characterize the coastal plain as Designated Wilderness, while retaining acknowledgement that wilderness characteristics are an important human value for the area as well as important habitat characteristic;
4. Better describing the rationale for a NSO setback to minimize visual and acoustic degradation along the northern edge of the Designated Wilderness Boundary, and clarifying that the recommended distance was based on existing information on in-air sound travel for another development on the northslope, and that that value could be refined with further analysis;
5. Removing reference to prohibiting temporary infrastructure in river setbacks;
6. Clarifying that our request to include more information on moose was in direct response to concerns raised by subsistence hunters in Kaktovik and that we can provide the information we recommend including;
7. We recommended the DEIS refer to a recently produced study by scientists on the Porcupine Caribou Technical Committee, which will ensure the DEIS is based on the best available science and acknowledges the input from our Canadian partners towards informing management of the Porcupine Caribou Herd. Throughout the document, our subject matter experts have tried to highlight studies that the DEIS team may find useful in establishing the baseline and best quantifying impacts. These include studies from the 1980s that document caribou response to development in areas previously undisturbed, as is the case for the Coastal Plain;
8. Our comments regarding ROP 16 had language about exploratory drilling being prohibited in both fish and non-fish bearing waters. We would like to include this recommendation as a means of ensuring that all the purposes of the Refuge are achieved, and we have added language that explains the justification for protection of river corridors which typically contain higher diversity gradients than the surrounding landscape;
9. The snow depth and density stipulations were revised to refer to the Alaska DNR protocols and we removed some redundant points
10. We clarified that for ROP 28 Ecological Mapping, the number of years of studies should be determined by the species/habitat experts and not be a standard value. As I mentioned, these products are typically requested by industry and completed by ecological experts at local consulting companies, and the standards are very high. This recommendation acknowledges how this ROP has been applied since originally drafted for NPRA; and
11. I have added language to indicate that while water withdrawal guidelines are established by Alaska DNR, we are specifically asking that springs be included

in ROP 8. Also, due to the limited surface water availability, water use from rivers may be considered if proven not to have a detrimental impact on Refuge purposes.

I believe I captured her full list of questions in my notes, and hope I have made changes that make this a better, stronger set of comments to aid BLM in completing the Final EIS.

Thank you,

Wendy

Dr. Wendy M. Loya

Arctic Program Coordinator

US Fish and Wildlife Service, Office of Science Applications

Anchorage, Alaska

907.786.3532 (office)

907.227.2942 (mobile)

<DRAFT_USFWS Comments to BLM_Coastal Plain DEIS revised 031219
(3).docx>

To: Jim Kurth[jim_kurth@fws.gov]; Bud Cribley[bud_cribley@fws.gov]; Margaret Everson[margaret_e_everson@fws.gov]; Travnicsek, Andrea[andrea_travnicsek@ios.doi.gov]
Cc: Charisa Morris[charisa_morris@fws.gov]; Sellars, Roslyn[Roslyn_Sellars@fws.gov]
From: Siekaniec, Greg
Sent: 2019-03-12T17:28:46-04:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Fwd: Weekly BP updates have been loaded - BP034816 - copies attached
Received: 2019-03-12T17:29:28-04:00
[ASFWP Weekly Meeting Issues BP Pebble Mine.docx](#)
[ASFWP Weekly Meeting Issues BP Cook Inlet ITRs.docx](#)
[ASFWP Weekly Meeting Issues BP 1002 Area Seismic ITRs.docx](#)
[ASFWP Weekly Meeting Issues BP Sitka and Hoonah.docx](#)
[ASFWP Weekly Meeting Issues BP Izembek Refuge.docx](#)
[ASFWP Weekly Meeting Table of Timelines for ITRs and IHAs.docx](#)

DTS number and briefs for our Thursday call.

Regards,

Greg

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

From: **Frerich, Lucille** <lucille_frerich@fws.gov>
Date: Tue, Mar 12, 2019 at 7:52 AM
Subject: Weekly BP updates have been loaded - BP034816 - copies attached
To: Greg Siekaniec <greg_siekaniec@fws.gov>, Karen Clark <karen_clark@fws.gov>, Ameer Howard <amee_howard@fws.gov>

Lucille Frerich
Executive Secretary, Regional Directors Office - Alaska Region
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
1011 E. Tudor Rd MS-381
Anchorage, AK 99503
907 786-3542 Fax: 907 786-3306

To: Lucille A Frerich[lucille_frerich@fws.gov]; Karen Clark[karen_clark@fws.gov]
From: Siekaniec, Greg
Sent: 2019-03-13T11:25:35-04:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Fwd: Final edits to DEIS comment letter
Received: 2019-03-13T11:26:30-04:00
[DRAFT USFWS Cover Letter to BLM Coastal Plain DEIS 031219.docx](#)
[DRAFT USFWS Comments to BLM Coastal Plain DEIS revised 031219 \(3\).docx](#)
[USFWS Comments to BLM Coastal Plain DEIS 031219.pdf](#)

Please put letter in final so I can sign before sending to BLM.
Thank you,

greg

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

From: Wendy Loya <wendy_loya@fws.gov>
Date: Tue, Mar 12, 2019 at 4:38 PM
Subject: Final edits to DEIS comment letter
To: Greg Siekaniec <greg_siekaniec@fws.gov>, Karen Clark <karen_clark@fws.gov>

Hi Greg and Karen,

I have addressed the final recommendation to make clear that our preferences for setback distances could be adapted through further analyses, particularly the Wilderness boundary buffer (p. 10) and river setbacks (p. 4). I have gone through and proofread the edits we have made and spell checked the entire document. There are still likely to be small errors in 57 pages of technical comments, but I feel confident we can work with Nicole Hayes and BLM's contractors to clarify our comments as needed.

The cover memo and comments are here as two separate word documents as well as one combined PDF. I know you sometimes sign the memo and scan that to PDF before transmission. I can submit the final PDF through the eplanning web portal tomorrow when you approve. Interestingly, I am having trouble accessing that site at the moment:

https://eplanning.blm.gov/epl-front-office/eplanning/planAndProjectSite.do?methodName_dispatchToPatternPage¤tPageId_152110

Thanks for your guidance, support and patience with this!

Wendy

Dr. Wendy M. Loya

Arctic Program Coordinator

US Fish and Wildlife Service, Office of Science Applications

Anchorage, Alaska

907.786.3532 (office)

907.227.2942 (mobile)

To: Gregory Siekaniec[greg_siekaniec@fws.gov]; Karen Clark[karen_clark@fws.gov]
From: Boario, Sara
Sent: 2019-03-13T13:08:26-04:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Fwd: Wondering when Siekaniec did this interview
Received: 2019-03-13T13:08:47-04:00
[twitter-icon Signature Block.jpg](#)
[Facebook Logo for Email Signature Block.png](#)

hey greg, can you tell me when/context of interview...or is this from another time?

thanks

sb

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

From: **Shire, Gavin** <gavin_shire@fws.gov>
Date: Wed, Mar 13, 2019 at 5:21 AM
Subject: Wondering when Siekaniec did this interview
To: Sara Boario <sara_boario@fws.gov>, Matthew Huggler <matthew_huggler@fws.gov>, Barbara Wainman <barbara_wainman@fws.gov>, Andrea Medeiros <andrea_medeiros@fws.gov>

This was in [yesterday's Greenwire](#). Wasn't expecting it. Did you know he'd been interviewed? Did OCO know?

[Kelsey Brugger](#), E&E News reporter

Published: Tuesday, March 12, 2019

Newly leaked Interior Department documents raise questions about the environmental review of oil drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge's coastal plain.

The documents show that federal scientists drafted 18 memos detailing the environmental "unknowns" of drilling in the Arctic refuge, according to Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility (PEER), which recently obtained the documents and **published** them today.

PEER charged that those documents have been excluded from public view and not released in accordance with Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests filed by advocacy groups. The advocacy group has petitioned the Interior Office of Inspector General to review the matter.

But top Interior Department officials, including Assistant Secretary Joe Balash and career employee and Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) Alaska Regional Director Greg Siekaniec, fiercely defended the agency's process and said PEER's claims were untrue.

"The Department is still processing numerous FOIA requests regarding the Coastal Plain, including request to which the information referenced by PEER may be responsive. PEER's assertion that the Department is willfully 'hiding' relevant documents in response to those requests is untrue," Balash said in a statement to E&E News.

PEER asserted otherwise. "These memos were treated as if they did not exist," said Tim Whitehouse, the new PEER executive director and a former EPA attorney. "The Trump administration apparently does not want to admit that it is flying blind in opening one of the most sensitive places on the planet to petroleum development."

In December, the Trump administration released its draft environmental review for a potential oil and gas lease sale on the refuge's 1.5-million-acre coastal plain. The agency has held eight public hearings on the proposal; the public comment period ends tomorrow (*Energywire*, Feb. 13).

Those memos were drafted last year and covered a wide range of work by government scientists, including on soils, permafrost, wetlands, climate, air quality, oil spills and various species in the area, including the populous caribou herd. They covered topics that were both "extensive" and "of major significance," PEER said.

PEER also charged the agency with intentionally excluding scientific work from the draft environmental assessment.

"Our sources are concerned," Whitehouse said, alleging that that could be a violation of the National Environmental Policy Act, making the draft environmental impact statement (DEIS) legally vulnerable.

But Balash argued that the "EIS will not authorize any on-the-ground activity associated with the exploration or development of oil and gas resources on the Coastal Plain. Future on-the-ground actions requiring BLM approval, including potential exploration and development proposals, would require further NEPA analysis based on the site-specific proposal," he said.

FWS director Siekaniec said that concerns about suppressed science were "simply overstated."

The agency was asked to "investigate what our information gaps are regarding development of a series of Environmental Impact Statements that will lead to an oil and gas program for Arctic National Wildlife Refuge," Siekaniec said. "We did this with the understanding that existing, new, and/or much more current information will best inform EIS development. This was not intended to be a 'list' of science that informs only a leasing EIS," he said.

"None of our science concerns have been suppressed within the Agency or Department," Siekaniec said.

PEER is an organization of federal employees who work on environmental issues. It has for decades exposed alleged wrongdoing at agencies and protected whistleblowers.

Whitehouse said the large number of government employees participating in the Arctic refuge environmental review makes them nearly impossible to overlook. The employees work for the Bureau of Land Management as well as the Fish and Wildlife Service.

"We believe that they were deliberately withheld both from the DEIS process and from FOIA requests to which these memos would have been directly responsible," he said.

Balash said that after the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act ordered the Interior Secretary to move towards leasing tracts in the refuge, "leadership at the Department directed multiple agencies, including (FWS), to review of all existing studies, data, surveys, scientific literature, and information that had been gathered on the Coastal Plain to support the development of the program. The assessment of this information identified all of the information that will be needed to support the full range of activities—well beyond the leasing stage," he said. That assessment is still informing multiple agencies "on what studies to conduct and when," Balash said.

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

--

Sara D. Boario
Assistant Regional Director External Affairs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Alaska Region
Anchorage, Alaska
907 786 3431



From: andrea_travnicek@ios.doi.gov
Location: 877-440-7142, passcode (b) (5) CIP Leader - Andrea (b) (5) CIP
Importance: Normal
Subject: Canceled event: Call Only - FWS Weekly Alaska Call @ Thu Mar 14, 2019 12:30pm - 1pm (AKDT) (karen_clark@fws.gov)
Start Date/Time: 2019-03-14T16:30:00-04:00
End Date/Time: 2019-03-14T17:00:00-04:00
[invite.ics](#)

This event has been canceled and removed from your calendar.

Call Only - FWS Weekly Alaska Call

Agenda:

Welcome

- Introductions for Participants

Incidental Take Regulations (ITR)/Incidental Harassment Authorizations (IHA)

- Cook Inlet ITR for Hillcorp and AK LNG

- Pebble Mine IHA

- Coastal Plain (1002) area Seismic ITR

- Sitka and Hoonah IHAs

Refuges

- Izembek National Wildlife Refuge Land Exchange

Migratory Bird Program

- Proposed Rule for the annual spring/summer migratory bird subsistence harvest regulations

Closing

- Recap for any follow up

- Thank you!

4:30pm Thursday works. FWS participants are below.

Margaret

Jim Kurth

Greg Siekaniec (via phone from Alaska)

When

Where

Calendar

Who

Thu Mar 14, 2019 12:30pm 1pm Alaska Time
Anchorage

877 440 7142, passcode (b) (5) CIP Leader Andrea
(b) (5) CIP ([map](#))

karen_clark@fws.gov

-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-

andrea_travnicek@ios.
tasha_l_robbs@ios.
greg_siekaniec@fws.
jim_kurth@fws.gov
margaret_e_everson@
karen_clark@fws.gov
stephen_wackowski@
roslyn_sellars@fws.g.
ionie_spence@fws.g.

Invitation from [Google Calendar](#)

You are receiving this email at the account karen_clark@fws.gov because you are subscribed for cancellations on calendar karen_clark@fws.gov.

To stop receiving these emails, please log in to <https://www.google.com/calendar/> and change your notification settings for this calendar.

Forwarding this invitation could allow any recipient to modify your RSVP response. [Learn More.](#)

From: andrea_travnicek@ios.doi.gov
Location: 877-440-7142, passcode (b) (5) CIP Leader - Andrea (b) (5) CIP
Importance: Normal
Subject: Canceled event: Call Only - FWS Weekly Alaska Call @ Thu Mar 14, 2019 12:30pm - 1pm (AKDT) (greg_siekaniec@fws.gov)
Start Date/Time: 2019-03-14T16:30:00-04:00
End Date/Time: 2019-03-14T17:00:00-04:00
[invite.ics](#)

This event has been canceled and removed from your calendar.

Call Only - FWS Weekly Alaska Call

- Agenda:
- Welcome
 - Introductions for Participants
 - Incidental Take Regulations (ITR)/Incidental Harassment Authorizations (IHA)
 - Cook Inlet ITR for Hillcorp and AK LNG
 - Pebble Mine IHA
 - Coastal Plain (1002) area Seismic ITR
 - Sitka and Hoonah IHAs
 - Refuges
 - Izembek National Wildlife Refuge Land Exchange
 - Migratory Bird Program
 - Proposed Rule for the annual spring/summer migratory bird subsistence harvest regulations
 - Closing
 - Recap for any follow up
 - Thank you!

4:30pm Thursday works. FWS participants are below.

Margaret
Jim Kurth
Greg Siekaniec (via phone from Alaska)

When	Thu Mar 14, 2019 12:30pm - 1pm Alaska Time
Where	Anchorage 877 440 7142, passcode (b) (5) CIP Leader Andrea (b) (5) CIP (map)
Calendar	greg_siekaniec@fws.gov
Who	

-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-

andrea_travnicek@ios.
tasha_l_robbins@ios.
stephen_wackowski@
greg_siekaniec@fws.
jim_kurth@fws.gov
margaret_e_everson@
karen_clark@fws.gov
ionie_spence@fws.g
roslyn_sellars@fws.g

Invitation from [Google Calendar](#)

You are receiving this email at the account greg_siekaniec@fws.gov because you are subscribed for cancellations on calendar greg_siekaniec@fws.gov.

To stop receiving these emails, please log in to <https://www.google.com/calendar/> and change your notification settings for this calendar.

Forwarding this invitation could allow any recipient to modify your RSVP response. [Learn More.](#)