

**From:** [Grace, Edward](#)  
**To:** [Greg Sheehan](#); [Stephen Guertin](#); [Jim Kurth](#); [Morris, Charisa](#); [Kashyap Patel](#)  
**Subject:** !0 yr History/Briefing of Trophy Imports  
**Date:** Monday, May 21, 2018 11:32:55 AM

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Greg,

Attached below are the stats and briefing that you requested. After you get a chance to read and digest let me know and we can answer any questions you may have.

Ed



[Brief - Trophies.doc](#)



[DecSummary.Tabor-Trophies-REVISED.2018.05.18.xlsx](#)



[LEMIS Port Codes.pdf](#)

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Edward Grace  
Acting Assistant Director  
Office of Law Enforcement  
United States Fish and Wildlife Service  
703-358-1949

**From:** (b) (6)  
**To:** [Gregory J Sheehan, Acting Director, FWS](mailto:Gregory.J.Sheehan@fws.gov); [stephen\\_quertin@fws.gov](mailto:stephen_quertin@fws.gov); [jim\\_kurth@fws.gov](mailto:jim_kurth@fws.gov); [chris\\_nolin@fws.gov](mailto:chris_nolin@fws.gov); [rebekah\\_giddings@fws.gov](mailto:rebekah_giddings@fws.gov); [barbara\\_wainman@fws.gov](mailto:barbara_wainman@fws.gov); [janine\\_Velasco@fws.gov](mailto:janine_Velasco@fws.gov)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Division A (Interior) of H.R. 6147 - Summary of Amendments Submitted v8  
**Date:** Friday, July 13, 2018 5:39:39 PM  
**Attachments:** [Summary of Amendments Submitted v8.pdf](#)  
[ATT00001.htm](#)

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Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Mark Mioduski <[mmioduski@cgagroup.com](mailto:mmioduski@cgagroup.com)>  
**Date:** July 13, 2018 at 5:31:16 PM EDT  
**To:** JSisson7373 (b) (6) >  
**Subject:** FW: Division A (Interior) of H.R. 6147 - Summary of Amendments Submitted v8

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**From:** Hodgkins, Caitlin <[caitlin.hodgkins@mail.house.gov](mailto:caitlin.hodgkins@mail.house.gov)>  
**Sent:** Friday, July 13, 2018 5:07 PM  
**Subject:** FW: Division A (Interior) of H.R. 6147 - Summary of Amendments Submitted v8

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**From:** Minkler, Annie  
**Sent:** Friday, July 13, 2018 5:01 PM  
**To:** Minkler, Annie <[Annie.Minkler@mail.house.gov](mailto:Annie.Minkler@mail.house.gov)>  
**Subject:** Division A (Interior) of H.R. 6147 - Summary of Amendments Submitted v8

**LATE: Gosar #167, Blackburn #168, Grothman #169, Polis #170**  
**REVISED: Loudermilk #2, Kustoff #151, Matsui #88, Lance #87, Gianforte #159, Langavlin #31, Lowenthal #56, McEachin #98, Torres #162**  
**WITHDRAWN: Lance #86, Soto #85**

**Summary of Amendments Submitted to the Rules Committee for  
Division A of H.R. 6147 - Department of the Interior, Environment, and  
Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2019**

(summaries derived from information provided by sponsors)

Listed in Alphabetical Order

Jul 13, 2018 4:58PM

***Click on sponsor for amendment text.***

- Abraham (LA),  
Westerman (AR),  
Crawford (AR)** **#35** **REVISED** Prevents the enforcement of limitations or prohibitions on the use of genetically engineered seed in commercial agricultural operations conducted on National Wildlife Refuges.
- Adams (NC)** **#106** States that no funds shall be used to carry out reassignments of Senior Executive Service members without an analysis of agency diversity and needs.
- Adams (NC)** **#121** **REVISED** Decreases and then increases the EPA Environmental Programs and Management account fund by \$742,000. This increase is to emphasize the need for greater funding for the Environmental Justice program area within the account.
- Barragán, (CA)** **#6** Prohibits funds for the Department of the Interior to issue a permit for any oil and gas drilling operation that is located within 1,500 feet of a home, school, or other building that requires special protection.
- Beyer (VA),  
Norton (DC)** **#24** Funds Interior's body camera pilot program for Law Enforcement Officers.
- Beyer (VA)** **#25** Strikes section 431, which repeals the Clean Water Rule
- Beyer (VA)** **#26** Strikes section 430, which allows a loophole in Federal water quality permitting requirements for pollution discharges.
- Beyer (VA)** **#28** Strip all ESA riders.
- Beyer (VA)** **#76** Strikes section which legislates that biomass be treated as carbon neutral.
- Beyer (VA)** **#130** **LATE** Bans the use of funds for keeping multiple calendars for the Administrator of the EPA, the Secretary of the Interior, and their Deputy Secretaries.
- Beyer (VA),  
Blumenauer (OR)** **#147** **LATE** Reduces the Department of Interior's Office of the Secretary account by \$1 million and increases the Environmental Protection Agency's Office of the Inspector General's account by \$1 million.
- Biggs (AZ)** **#111** Transfers funds from the Forest Service land

acquisition account to the spending reduction account.

- Biggs (AZ)** #128 **LATE** Transfers funds from the NPS land acquisition account to Indian Education.
- Biggs (AZ)** #129 **LATE** Transfers funds from the BLM Land acquisition account to the NPS Parks Maintenance Backlog.
- Blackburn (TN)** #168 **LATE** Reduces discretionary budget authority by one percent for Fiscal Year 2019 Appropriations for Department of Interior, Environmental Protection Agency, and related agencies.
- Blumenauer (OR),** #50 Increases the Historic Preservation Fund by \$5 million  
**Turner (OH),**  
**Heck, Denny**  
**(WA), Courtney**  
**(CT), Smith, Adam**  
**(WA), Katko (NY),**  
**Keating (MA)**
- Brooks (AL),** #113 Prohibits funds appropriated under this act from  
**Duncan (SC),** being made available to any state or local  
**Biggs (AZ), Gaetz** government that is designated a Sanctuary  
**(FL), Palmer (AL),** jurisdiction through noncompliance of Section 642 of  
**Norman (SC),** the Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility  
**McClintock (CA),** Act of 1996 (8 U.S.C. 1373).  
**Black (TN), Yoho**  
**(FL), Webster (FL),**  
**King, Steve (IA),**  
**Gosar (AZ),**  
**Barletta (PA),**  
**Jones (NC),**  
**DesJarlais (TN)**
- Brooks (AL)** #114 **REVISED** Eliminates federal funding for the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars.
- Brown (MD)** #61 Prohibits funds to be used to include in the 2019-2024 National Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Proposed Program an oil and gas lease sale in any area categorized as 'No Oil and Gas Activity' in the DoD Mission Compatibility Planning Assessment: BOEM 2017-2022 Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Draft Proposed Program, published on October 30, 2015.

- Buchanan (FL)** #51 Restores \$7,877,000 to the Fish and Wildlife Service for new listings under the Endangered Species Act, level with final FY 2018 funding. Reduces the Office of the Secretary by the same amount.
- Burgess (TX)** #157 **LATE** Places a funding limitation on the EPA's ability to utilize the Title 42 special pay authority.
- Byrne (AL), Babin (TX), Higgins, Clay (LA), Palazzo (MS), Scalise (LA)** #110 Prevents the re-purposing of Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act funds.
- Carbajal (CA)** #13 States that none of the funds made available by this Act may be used to process any application under the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (43 U.S.C. 1331 et seq.) for a permit to drill or a permit to modify, that would authorize use of hydraulic fracturing or acid well stimulation treatment in the Pacific Outer Continental Shelf.
- Carbajal (CA)** #15 Increases funding by \$5.4 million to ensure EPA can help protect communities from the impacts of oil spills.
- Carter, Buddy (GA)** #62 **WITHDRAWN** Prevents funds from being use to implement a rule requiring Tier 4 marine engines on commercial vessels until those Tier 4 marine engines are available for vessels with various restrictions, such as pilot boats.
- Castor (FL), Rooney, Francis (FL), Crist (FL)** #77 **REVISED** States that no funds may be used to include (a) any area of the Eastern Gulf of Mexico that is referred to in section 104(a) of the Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act of 2006; (b) the portion of the South Atlantic Planning Area south of 30 degrees 43 minutes North Latitude; or (c) the Straits of Florida Planning Area in any OCS leasing program developed under OCSLA Section 18.
- Castor (FL), Rooney, Francis (FL), Crist (FL)** #78 **REVISED** States that no oil and gas leasing or preleasing or any related activity may be offered of any tract located in (a) any area of the Eastern Gulf of Mexico that is referred to in section 104(a) of the Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act of 2006; (b) the portion of the South Atlantic Planning Area south of 30 degrees 43 minutes North Latitude; or (c) the Straits

of Florida Planning Area.

- Castor (FL),  
Rooney, Francis  
(FL), Crist (FL)** **#93** **REVISED** Provides that no funds may be made available to install a private phone booth in or near the office of the Secretary of the Interior.
- Cicilline (RI)** **#41** Prohibits oil and gas drilling off of the coast of New England.
- Cleaver (MO)** **#125** **LATE** Affirms the support of Congress for the construction of the World War I Memorial at Pershing Park in Washington, D.C. and urges other Federal Agencies, as appropriate, to support and participate in commemoration activities.
- Clyburn (SC),  
Adams (NC),  
Sewell (AL)** **#18** Increases funding by \$2 million for Historic Preservation Fund grants to Historically Black Colleges and Universities.
- Cohen (TN)** **#58** Prohibits the use of funds to enter into any new contract, grant, or cooperative agreement with any Trump related business listed in the President Trump's Annual Financial Disclosure Report submitted to the Office of Government Ethics as well as certain Trump related properties listed on the Trump Organization's website. The specific properties are listed in the amendment.
- Cohen (TN)** **#67** Prohibits the use of funds to enter into any new contract, grant, or cooperative agreement with any Trump related business listed in the President Trump's Annual Financial Disclosure Report submitted to the Office of Government Ethics. The specific properties are listed in the amendment.
- Connolly (VA),  
Price, David (NC)** **#29** Prohibits funds from being used to change or modify the 2015 federal coal ash rule (80 Fed. Reg. 21301 (April 17, 2015)).
- Connolly (VA),  
Beyer (VA)** **#30** Prohibit funds to finalize EPA rulemakings initiated by former Administrator Pruitt until the Inspector General's investigations into the former Administrator's activities are complete.
- Courtney (CT),  
Larson, John (CT)** **#103** Provides funding for the U.S. Geological Survey to develop a map showing pyrrhotite occurrences across the United States.
- Courtney (CT),** **#105** Designates \$300,000 within the Operation of the

<b><u>Larson, John (CT), Neal (MA), Esty (CT), DeLauro (CT), Himes (CT), McGovern (MA)</u></b>		National Park System for the New England Scenic Trail.
<b><u>Cramer, Kevin (ND)</u></b>	<b><u>#1</u></b>	Prevents implementation of the Bureau of Land Management Waste Prevention, Production Subject to Royalties, and Resource Conservation rule.
<b><u>DeGette (CO), Dingell (MI)</u></b>	<b><u>#109</u></b>	Prohibits funding being used to implement, administer, or enforce EPA's Memorandum relating to Conditional No Action Assurance Regarding Small Manufacturers of Glider Vehicles.
<b><u>Delaney (MD)</u></b>	<b><u>#42</u></b>	Prohibits funds from being used to implement DOI Secretarial Orders 3349 and 3360.
<b><u>Denham (CA)</u></b>	<b><u>#60</u></b>	Prevents federal funds from being used to implement the State of California's Bay-Delta Plan.
<b><u>Denham (CA)</u></b>	<b><u>#153</u></b>	<b>LATE</b> Increases the WIFIA administrative expenses account by \$2 million and decreases the DOI Office of the Secretary account by the same amount.
<b><u>Dingell (MI), Moolenaar (MI)</u></b>	<b><u>#75</u></b>	<b>REVISED</b> Increases USGS funding by \$250,000 for fisheries assessment to continue and expand advanced technologies research in the Ecosystem Fisheries Program in accordance with Congressional direction that mission areas and accounts would be maintained at the enacted level.
<b><u>Duncan (SC), Brooks (AL), Biggs (AZ)</u></b>	<b><u>#66</u></b>	Prevents funds from going to local governments that permit individuals who are not citizens of the United States to vote in elections for state or local office.
<b><u>Dunn (FL)</u></b>	<b><u>#90</u></b>	Prohibits use of funds made available by the Act to add the Panama City crawfish to the list of endangered and threatened wildlife published under the Endangered Species Act of 1973.
<b><u>Emmer (MN), Nolan (MN)</u></b>	<b><u>#71</u></b>	Prohibits funding from being used to implement a January 13, 2017 effort by the U.S. Department of Interior and Agriculture to restrict all leasing, exploration, and potential development of approximately 234,328 acres of federal land in Northeast Minnesota.
<b><u>Esty (CT),</u></b>	<b><u>#82</u></b>	Increases funding to "brownfields projects" within the

- McKinley (WV)** State and Tribal Assistance Grants (STAG) by \$10 million by pulling \$10 million from the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to help cities and towns clean up brownfield sites in their local communities by .
- Gallego (AZ)** #132 **LATE** Ensures none of the funds made available by this Act may be used to implement the Presidential Proclamation entitled “Modifying the Bears Ears National Monument” issued on December 4, 2017.
- Gallego (AZ)** #133 **LATE** Ensures none of the funds made available by this Act may be used to issue any permit for mineral exploration or mining on lands reserved under the Presidential Proclamation entitled “Establishment of the Bears Ears National Monument” issued on December 28, 2016.
- Gallego (AZ)** #134 **LATE** Ensures none of the funds made available by this Act may be used to issue grazing permits or leases in contravention of BLM regulations.
- Garamendi (CA),  
McNerney (CA),  
Huffman (CA),  
Bera (CA), Lofgren  
(CA)** #32 Strikes Section 437. Section 437 prohibits judicial review of California WaterFix.
- Garamendi (CA),  
McNerney (CA),  
Huffman (CA),  
Bera (CA), Lofgren  
(CA)** #33 Strikes Section 44 which prohibits judicial review of CALFED projects, the Central Valley Project (CVP) and the State Water Project (SWP).
- Gianforte (MT)** #159 **LATE REVISED** Allows for voluntary consultation by the Secretary of Agriculture if new information regarding a species or critical habitat could affect a land management plan.
- Goodlatte (VA),  
Thompson, Glenn  
(PA), Shuster  
(PA), Perry (PA)** #5 Prohibits the Environmental Protection Agency from using any funds to take retaliatory, or EPA described “backstop” actions, against any of the six states in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed in the event that a state does not meet the goals mandated by the EPA’s Chesapeake Bay Total Maximum Daily Load.
- Gosar (AZ)** #167 **LATE** Helps meet U.S. energy security needs, provide for the common defense and ensure the availability of certain critical minerals by prohibiting funds to

carryout Public Land Order 7787.

- Grijalva (AZ)** #95 The amendment prohibits funds for the construction of a border wall in the Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge.
- Grijalva (AZ)** #96 Increases the budget for the Department of the Interior Inspector General's Office by \$2.5 million.
- Grijalva (AZ)** #97 Ensures no funds may be used to consider uranium as a critical mineral under EO 13817 (Dec. 20, 2017).
- Grijalva (AZ)** #100 Prohibits funds for trophy hunting permits authorizing importation from any country of an elephant trophy or lion trophy from Zimbabwe, Zambia, or Tanzania.
- Grijalva (AZ)** #142 **LATE** Prohibits funds for modifying or revoking national monuments established by the Antiquities Act.
- Grothman (WI)** #143 **LATE** Prohibits funds made available by this Act to be used to implement or enforce the EPA's ground level ozone rule.
- Grothman (WI)** #169 **LATE** Reduces funding for the National Endowment on the Arts and the Humanities by 15 percent.
- Hanabusa (HI),  
Gabbard (HI),  
Young, Don (AK)** #39 Increases the USGS Surveys, Investigations and Research account by \$4,798,500, intended to be used for the Volcano Hazards Program to ameliorate impacts caused by volcanic eruptions.
- Heck, Denny (WA)** #91 Directs EPA to fund the Clean Watersheds Needs Survey.
- Hice, Jody (GA)** #163 **LATE** States that no funds should be made available for the execution of any program conducted by the Office of Environmental Justice.
- Hudson (NC)** #49 **WITHDRAWN** Increases the Capital Improvement and Maintenance account for Forest Service road repairs.
- Huffman (CA)** #45 States no funds shall be used to reassign or transfer members of the Senior Executive Service at the Department of the Interior.
- Huffman (CA)** #46 States no funds shall be used to withdraw the EPA Region 10 proposed determination to protect the Bristol Bay watershed and wild salmon from the impacts of the Pebble Mine.
- Huffman (CA)** #47 **REVISED** States none of the funds may be used for implementation of Section 20001 of the Tax Cuts and

Jobs Act, related to oil and gas development in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

- Huffman (CA), Reichert (WA), Kilmer (WA), Carbajal (CA), Lowenthal (CA), McEachin (VA), Connolly (VA), Bonamici (OR), Soto (FL)**
- Jackson Lee (TX)** #144 **LATE WITHDRAWN** Expresses support for National Historic Areas and for continuation of national policy to preserve for public use historic sites, buildings, and objects of national significance.
- Jackson Lee (TX)** #145 **LATE WITHDRAWN** Prohibits funds to be used to limit outreach programs administered by the Smithsonian Institution.
- Jackson Lee (TX)** #146 **LATE WITHDRAWN** Prohibits the use of funds to eliminate or restrict programs aimed at reforestation of urban areas.
- Jackson Lee (TX)** #154 **LATE** Prohibits funds to be used to limit outreach programs administered by the Smithsonian Institution.
- Jackson Lee (TX)** #155 **LATE** Prohibits the use of funds to eliminate or restrict programs aimed at reforestation of urban areas.
- Jackson Lee (TX)** #156 **LATE** Expresses support for National Historic Areas and for continuation of national policy to preserve for public use historic sites, buildings, and objects of national significance.
- Jackson Lee (TX)** #161 **LATE** Prohibits funds to be used to house migrant children who have been involuntarily separated from family members or responsible adults.
- Jackson Lee (TX)** #164 **LATE** Increases by \$500,000 the amount of funds provided for the Historic Preservation Fund to be used for competitive grants for the survey and nomination of properties to the National Register of Historic Places and as National Historic Landmarks

associated with communities currently under-represented.

- Jackson Lee (TX)** #165 **LATE** States that of the funds provided for the Historic Preservation Fund, increase by \$1,000,000 those funds allocated for grants to Historically Black Colleges and Universities.
- Jackson Lee (TX)** #166 **LATE** Reduces by \$1,000,000 then increase by \$1,000,000 the amount of funds available for workers compensation and unemployment compensation associated with the orderly closure of the U.S. Bureau of Mines and other related purposes.
- Jayapal (WA),  
Barragán, (CA),  
Ruiz (CA),  
McEachin (VA)** #52 Prohibits funds from being used to contravene Executive Order 12898 relating to Federal actions to address environmental justice in minority populations and low-income populations.
- Jayapal (WA),  
Quigley (IL),  
Cohen (TN),  
Castor (FL), Beyer  
(VA), Titus (NV),  
Cicilline (RI)** #53 Prohibits any changes to the National Park Service rule preventing fringe hunting.
- Jayapal (WA),  
McEachin (VA),  
Ruiz (CA),  
Barragán, (CA)** #54 Reduces then adds back \$12 million to EPA's Superfund account to underscore the importance of Superfund enforcement.
- Jayapal (WA),  
McEachin (VA),  
Smith, Adam  
(WA), Ruiz (CA),  
Barragán, (CA)** #55 Increases the amount available for EPA's environmental justice grants to \$16 million.
- Jeffries (NY),  
Huffman (CA),  
Jackson Lee (TX)** #150 **LATE** Prohibits use of funds by the National Park Service to purchase or display a confederate flag except in situations where such flags would provide historical context pursuant to a National Park Service memorandum.
- Johnson (OH),  
Griffith (VA)** #92 Restores the number of Appalachian states eligible for grants for the reclamation of abandoned mine lands to be used for economic and community development from 3 to 6.

<b><u>Johnson (OH), Griffith (VA)</u></b>	#94	<b>REVISED</b> Provides for a balanced distribution of funds among Appalachian states for reclamation of abandoned mine lands in conjunction with economic and community development, offset by funds from the Environmental Programs and Management account.
<b><u>Katko (NY), Heck, Denny (WA)</u></b>	#112	<b>REVISED</b> Restores funding for capitalization grants for the Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Funds, equal to the funding appropriated by the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2018.
<b><u>Keating (MA)</u></b>	#101	Prohibits funds from being used to take Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal land out of trust.
<b><u>Keating (MA)</u></b>	#102	Funds the Cape Cod National Seashore Advisory Commission.
<b><u>Keating (MA)</u></b>	#104	Allocates funding for research into PFAS mitigation and harmful impacts.
<b><u>Keating (MA)</u></b>	#140	<b>LATE</b> Allocating funding for states and localities to improve water filtration systems to address extreme PFAS levels in municipal drinking water.
<b><u>Kildee (MI), Walberg (MI)</u></b>	#9	Increases funding to USGS to eradicate grass carp by \$1 million. Reduces funding from the Office of the Interior Secretary by the same amount.
<b><u>Kustoff (TN), Comer (KY)</u></b>	#151	<b>LATE REVISED</b> Reduces and increases by \$5,000,000 the amount of funding appropriated to the United States Fish and Wildlife Service Agency Resource Management Program for controlling Invasive Asian Carp in the Mississippi and Ohio River Basins and preventing them from entering and establishing in the inland river systems of Alabama, Kentucky, and Tennessee.
<b><u>LaMalfa (CA)</u></b>	#135	<b>LATE REVISED</b> Directs additional funds to the National Forest System account for purposes of eradicating, enforcing, and remediating illegal marijuana grow operations on National Forest System land.
<b><u>Lamborn (CO)</u></b>	#68	Prohibits the use of funds to implement or enforce the threatened species or endangered species listing of any plant or wildlife that has not undergone a review as required by section 4(c)(2) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973.

- Lamborn (CO)** #70 Prohibits the use of funds to implement or enforce the threatened species listing of the Preble’s meadow jumping mouse under the Endangered Species Act.
- Lance (NJ)** #86 **WITHDRAWN** Sets aside \$6 million dollars from the “Fish Wildlife Service – Resource Management” account for the Delaware River Basin Restoration Program.
- Lance (NJ)** #87 **REVISED** Increases funding for the Delaware River Basin Restoration Program by \$1 million.
- Langevin (RI),  
Cicilline (RI),  
Keating (MA),  
Kennedy (MA)** #31 **REVISED** Provides funding for the Southern New England Estuaries Program under EPA Geographic Programs.
- Lawrence (MI)** #4 States that none of the funds made available in this Act may be used to limit the functions of the EPA’s Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization.
- Lieu (CA), Gallego (AZ), Welch (VT)** #40 States none of the funds made available in this Division may be used to make a payment to or reimburse expenses incurred at Trump Organization properties.
- Lipinski (IL)** #124 **LATE REVISED** Increases the Clean Water State Revolving Fund and the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund each by \$10 million. Reduces the appropriation for the Department of the Interior Office of the Secretary and the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management each by \$10 million.
- Loudermilk (GA),  
Griffith (VA)** #2 **REVISED** Prohibits funds from being used to regulate trailers under the Clean Air Act.
- Lowenthal (CA)** #56 **REVISED** Prohibits funds from being used to delay implementation or repeal provisions of the BLM methane waste prevention rule.
- Lowenthal (CA)** #57 Prohibits funds from being used to implement any recommendations of the Royalty Policy Committee that are outside the scope of the committee described in the Royalty Policy Committee charter.
- Lujan (NM)** #12 **REVISED** Decreases and increases State and Tribal Assistance Grants by \$4 million to direct the EPA to work with the affected States and Indian tribes to a

long-term monitoring program for water quality of the Animas and San Juan Rivers in response to the Gold King Mine spill as authorized by the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act.

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| <b><u>Matsui (CA),<br/>DeSaulnier (CA),<br/>Huffman (CA)</u></b> | <b>#88</b>  | <b>REVISED</b> Prohibits the EPA from using funds to propose a rule to end the One National Program for greenhouse gas emissions and fuel economy standards for light-duty vehicles.   |
| <b><u>McEachin (VA),<br/>Beyer (VA)</u></b>                      | <b>#36</b>  | Refunds the National Academy of Sciences study "Potential Human Health Effects of Surface Coal Mining Operations in Center Appalachia."  |
| <b><u>McEachin (VA)</u></b>                                      | <b>#37</b>  | Prevents funds from being used to reduce, consolidate, or terminate the EPA's National Center for Environmental Research, or grants or research carried out by the National Center for Environmental Research.   |
| <b><u>McEachin (VA)</u></b>                                      | <b>#98</b>  | <b>REVISED</b> Prevents DOI from obstructing an investigation by the Government Accountability Office, Office of Special Counsel, or DOI Inspector General.  |
| <b><u>McEachin (VA)</u></b>                                      | <b>#99</b>  | Transfers funds from the Office of the Secretary to the Human Capital and Diversity office in the Office of Policy, Management and Budget to conduct a employee climate survey on harassment.  |
| <b><u>McMorris<br/>Rodgers (WA)</u></b>                          | <b>#14</b>  | Limits funding for the implementation of Washington State's revised water quality standard.  |
| <b><u>Moore, Gwen<br/>(WI)</u></b>                               | <b>#16</b>  | Boosts funding for the Smithsonian by \$500,000 to better support efforts, including the creation of temporary or permanent exhibits, that better tell and increase understanding and education about the history, voices, and narratives of underrepresented communities, including African-Americans and tribal communities. |
| <b><u>Moore, Gwen<br/>(WI)</u></b>                               | <b>#17</b>  | <b>REVISED</b> Maintains FY 2018 funding for an authorized program to address lead in drinking water.  |
| <b><u>Moore, Gwen<br/>(WI)</u></b>                               | <b>#34</b>  | Bars the use of funds to reorganize or eliminate the Great Lakes Advisory Board.   |
| <b><u>Moore, Gwen<br/>(WI)</u></b>                               | <b>#116</b> | States that none of the funds made available by this act may be used in contravention of Executive Order   |

13627, which strengthens protections against trafficking in persons in Federal contracting.

- Moore, Gwen (WI)** #126 **LATE REVISED** Increases funding for the NEA to support a program of activities to commemorate the International Decade for People of African Descent and build greater appreciation and understanding of the history and heritage of people of African descent.
- Mullin, Markwayne (OK), Perry (PA)** #138 **LATE** Prohibits the use of funds for enforcing the Obama Administration's EPA Methane Rule.
- Mullin, Markwayne (OK), Gohmert (TX), Gosar (AZ), Perry (PA), Gianforte (MT)** #139 **LATE** Prohibits funds from implementing the Social Cost of Carbon rule.
- Norman (SC)** #22 Transfers \$12 million from provisions of the Woodrow Wilson International Center to the United States Geological Survey agency.
- O'Halleran (AZ)** #19 Reduces Interior operations funds and increase BIA construction funds by 10 million dollars.
- O'Halleran (AZ)** #20 Reduces and increases by \$36,000,000 the amount of funding appropriated to the Bureau of Indian Affairs construction account for public safety and justice facility construction.
- O'Halleran (AZ)** #21 **REVISED** Moves \$3,000,000 from the Office of the Special Trustee to the Office of Navajo-Hopi Indian Relocation.
- O'Halleran (AZ)** #27 Prohibits changes to Public Land Order 7787 using funds appropriated in this act.
- Pallone (NJ), Wasserman Schultz (FL), Sarbanes (MD), Moulton (MA), Beyer (VA), McEachin (VA), Connolly (VA), Bonamici (OR)** #7 **REVISED** States that none of the funds made available by this Act may be used to research, investigate, or study offshore drilling or conduct a lease sale for the development or production of oil and gas in any area located in the North Atlantic, Mid-Atlantic, South Atlantic, or Straits of Florida Outer Continental Shelf Planning Area.

**Deutch (FL), Soto (FL), Clyburn (SC), Pingree (ME), Adams (NC), Payne, Jr. (NJ), Pascrell (NJ)**

**Palmer (AL)** #64 Ensures that none of the funds made available by this Act may be used for the Environmental Protection Agency's Criminal Enforcement Division.

**Palmer (AL)** #65 Eliminates funding for Diesel Emission Reduction Grants and sends the savings to the spending reduction account.

**Pearce (NM)** #117 Prevents funds from being used to treat the New Mexico Meadow Jumping Mouse as an endangered species.

**Pearce (NM), Marshall (KS)** #118 Prevents funds from being used to carry out any rule-making on the status of the Lesser Prairie Chicken

**Perry (PA)** #148 **LATE** Prohibits the use of funds for any federal advisory committee of the EPA that is not in compliance with the directive entitled "Strengthening and Improving Membership on EPA Federal Advisory Committees" published by the EPA on October 31, 2017.

**Perry (PA)** #149 **LATE** Prohibits the EPA from using funds to give formal notification under, or prepare, propose, implement, administer, or enforce any rule or recommendation pursuant to, section 115 of the Clean Air Act.

**Perry (PA)** #160 **LATE** Prohibits the use of funds to implement or enforce section 211(o) of the Clean Air Act (relating to the renewable fuel program).

**Peters, Scott (CA), #83 Smith, Adam (WA), Delaney (MD)** Prohibits funds from being used to hinder, suppress, or block any report required by statute related to climate change and would prohibit funds from being used to suppress communications to the public, or any Congressional entity, regarding science related to climate change.

**Peterson (MN)** #63 Requires the Department of Interior to conduct a study on best drainage water management practices

on publicly-owned lands and wetlands to reduce the risk of flooding.

- Pingree (ME)** #115 **REVISED** Requires that Department of the Interior funds in the bill shall be available for obligation not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act.
- Plaskett, (VI)** #69 Strengthens necessary support for insular territories of the United States (to equal Senate levels).
- Poe (TX), Olson (TX)** #131 **LATE** Reduces by \$20,000,000 and then increases by the same amount the National Recreation and Preservation account with intent to use the funds for the National Maritime Heritage grant program.
- Polis (CO)** #107 Increases funds for hazardous fuels management activities by \$10 million, decreases funds provided for forest products by the same amount.
- Polis (CO), Ruiz (CA), King, Peter (NY)** #108 Increases state and forestry private account by \$2 million to add funding for Volunteer Fire Assistance grant program, and decreases Wildland Fire Management account by the same amount.
- Polis (CO)** #170 **LATE** Decreases funds for the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management used for oil and gas by \$2 million, and applies the funds to the spending reduction account.
- Price, David (NC), Barragán, (CA), Crist (FL), Buchanan (FL), Rooney, Francis (FL)** #80 No funds may be used to make changes to the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement well control rule and production safety systems rule.
- Quigley (IL), Connolly (VA), Pingree (ME)** #137 **LATE** Requires the EPA Administrator and Deputy Administrator to publicly disclose all travel costs paid by EPA within 10 days of travel.
- Renacci (OH), Moulton (MA)** #158 **LATE** Increases the lifetime federal funding cap for the Essex National Heritage Area, Ohio and Erie National Heritage Canalway, and the Rivers of Steel National Heritage Area from \$17 million to \$19 million.
- Rice, Kathleen (NY)** #152 **LATE** Prohibits funds to the Fish and Wildlife Service for issuing permits for importing elephant trophies.
- Rosen (NV)** #43 Ensures that no funds are used to create a net loss of

access to recreational hunting or fishing on public lands.

- Rosen (NV)** #44 Prohibits the use of funds to change the designations of Gold Butte National Monument and Basin and Range National Monument as national monuments.
- Ruiz (CA), Cook (CA)** #81 States that no funding made available by this act shall be used to divert water being conveyed from the San Bernardino National Forest to the city of Banning, California.
- Sanford (SC)** #23 **REVISED** Prohibits funds to conduct offshore drilling and seismic testing
- Sewell (AL)** #89 Increases funding for competitive grants to preserve the sites and stories of the Civil Rights Movement by \$2,500,000, and reduces departmental operations for the Office of the Secretary of Interior by the same amount.
- Smith, Jason (MO), Gianforte (MT)** #3 Prevents the payment of attorney's fees as part of any settlement the Federal Government enters into under the Clean Air Act, the Clean Water Act, and the Endangered Species Act.
- Smith, Jason (MO)** #127 **LATE** Prevents funds from being used to designate critical habitat on private land under the Endangered Species Act.
- Soto (FL)** #72 Increases funding for the National Estuary Program by \$468,000.
- Soto (FL)** #79 Prohibits the Secretary of the Interior from acting in contradiction of section 104(a) of the Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act of 2006.
- Soto (FL)** #84 Increases funding for the National Wildlife Refuge System by \$500,000 for the Wildlife and Habitat Management of invasive species.
- Soto (FL)** #85 **WITHDRAWN** Prohibits the removal of the Florida Panther from the endangered species list.
- Taylor (VA)** #73 States no funds may be used to conduct a lease sale for oil and gas production or development in any area within the North Atlantic or Mid Atlantic Planning area.
- Taylor (VA)** #74 States no funds may be used to conduct a lease sale for oil and gas production or development in any area

within the offshore administrative boundaries of the State of Virginia.

**Thompson, Glenn (PA)** #136 **LATE** Restores funding for the Abandoned Mine Land Reclamation pilot program by \$25,000,000 while

reducing EPA's Environmental Programs and Management by the same amount.

**Tonko (NY),  
Curbelo (FL),  
Costello (PA),  
Johnson, Eddie  
Bernice (TX),  
Price, David (NC)**

#38 Prohibits funding to be used to finalize, implement, administer, or enforce EPA's Strengthening Transparency in Regulatory Science proposed rule.

**Torres (CA)**

#162 **LATE REVISED** Prevents the use of funds to carry out a reorganization of the Department of the Interior, unless all Tribes likely to be impacted by such reorganization have been meaningfully consulted and concerns raised in the context of such consultations have been adequately addressed.

**Vargas (CA),  
Davis, Susan (CA),  
Peters, Scott (CA)**

#59 Increases funding for the U.S.-Mexico Border Water Infrastructure Program by \$5 million.

**Wasserman  
Schultz (FL)**

#8 Restricts funding from being used to conduct an oil and gas lease sale on the Outer Continental Shelf in the Mid-Atlantic, South Atlantic, Straits of Florida, or Eastern Gulf of Mexico planning area, as such planning areas are depicted in the leasing program prepared under section 18 of the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (43 U.S.C. 1344), entitled the "2017–2022 Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Proposed Final Program."

**Welch (VT)**

#119 **REVISED** Prohibits the EPA from issuing Renewable Volume Obligations under the Renewable Fuel Standard that will worsen environmental outcomes as reported in the Second Triennial Report to Congress (U.S. EPA. Biofuels and the Environment: The Second Triennial Report to Congress. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Washington, DC, EPA/600/R-18/195, 2018.)"

**Welch (VT)**

#120 **REVISED** Prohibits EPA from using any funds to issue Small Refinery Waivers under the Renewable Fuel

Standard without making public, through press release and publishing on the EPA’s website, the following information: name of company granted a waiver; reason for the waiver; number of gallons covered by the waiver; and, the impact of the waiver on overall RVO for the year.

- Welch (VT)**      **#122** **REVISED** Increases and decreases the State and Private Forestry Account account by \$5 million to indicate that the amount should be used to help mitigate the spread of and the Emerald Ash Borer.
- Welch (VT),**      **#123** **REVISED** Increases funding for the Lake Champlain  
**Stefanik (NY)** Basin Program by \$4 million to the FY18 enacted level. Decreases the Office of the Secretary of Interior account by the same amount.
- Welch (VT)**      **#141** **REVISED** Prohibits the EPA from developing, implementing, or enforcing new regulations altering the Reid vapor pressure limitations of section 211(h) of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7545(h)).”
- Young, Don (AK)**      **#10** Prevents funds from being used to change existing placer mining plan of operations with regard to reclamation activities.
- Young, Don (AK)**      **#11** Exempts National Forests in Alaska from the Roadless Rule.

**Annie Minkler**  
**Professional Staff**  
**House Committee on Rules**  
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**Summary of Amendments Submitted to the Rules Committee for  
Division A of H.R. 6147 - Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related  
Agencies Appropriations Act, 2019**

(summaries derived from information provided by sponsors)

Listed in Alphabetical Order

Jul 13, 2018 4:58PM

*Click on sponsor for amendment text.*

- |  |      |  |
|--|------|--|
| <b>Abraham (LA),<br/>Westerman (AR),<br/>Crawford (AR)</b> | #35  | <b>REVISED</b> Prevents the enforcement of limitations or prohibitions on the use of genetically engineered seed in commercial agricultural operations conducted on National Wildlife Refuges.   |
| <b>Adams (NC)</b>  | #106 | States that no funds shall be used to carry out reassignments of Senior Executive Service members without an analysis of agency diversity and needs.   |
| <b>Adams (NC)</b>  | #121 | <b>REVISED</b> Decreases and then increases the EPA Environmental Programs and Management account fund by \$742,000. This increase is to emphasize the need for greater funding for the Environmental Justice program area within the account. |
| <b>Barragán, (CA)</b>                                      | #6   | Prohibits funds for the Department of the Interior to issue a permit for any oil and gas drilling operation that is located within 1,500 feet of a home, school, or other building that requires special protection.                           |
| <b>Beyer (VA),<br/>Norton (DC)</b>                         | #24  | Funds Interior's body camera pilot program for Law Enforcement Officers.   |
| <b>Beyer (VA)</b>  | #25  | Strikes section 431, which repeals the Clean Water Rule  |
| <b>Beyer (VA)</b>  | #26  | Strikes section 430, which allows a loophole in Federal water quality permitting requirements for pollution discharges.  |
| <b>Beyer (VA)</b>  | #28  | Strip all ESA riders.  |
| <b>Beyer (VA)</b>  | #76  | Strikes section which legislates that biomass be treated as carbon neutral.  |
| <b>Beyer (VA)</b>  | #130 | <b>LATE</b> Bans the use of funds for keeping multiple calendars for the Administrator of the EPA, the Secretary of the Interior, and their Deputy Secretaries.  |
| <b>Beyer (VA),<br/>Blumenauer (OR)</b>                     | #147 | <b>LATE</b> Reduces the Department of Interior's Office of the Secretary account by \$1 million and increases the Environmental Protection Agency's Office of the Inspector  |

- General's account by \$1 million.
- Biggs (AZ)** #111 Transfers funds from the Forest Service land acquisition account to the spending reduction account.
- Biggs (AZ)** #128 **LATE** Transfers funds from the NPS land acquisition account to Indian Education.
- Biggs (AZ)** #129 **LATE** Transfers funds from the BLM Land acquisition account to the NPS Parks Maintenance Backlog.
- Blackburn (TN)** #168 **LATE** Reduces discretionary budget authority by one percent for Fiscal Year 2019 Appropriations for Department of Interior, Environmental Protection Agency, and related agencies.
- Blumenauer (OR), Turner (OH), Heck, Denny (WA), Courtney (CT), Smith, Adam (WA), Katko (NY), Keating (MA)** #50 Increases the Historic Preservation Fund by \$5 million to restore level funding with FY 2018.
- Brooks (AL), Duncan (SC), Biggs (AZ), Gaetz (FL), Palmer (AL), Norman (SC), McClintock (CA), Black (TN), Yoho (FL), Webster (FL), King, Steve (IA), Gosar (AZ), Barletta (PA), Jones (NC), DesJarlais (TN)** #113 Prohibits funds appropriated under this act from being made available to any state or local government that is designated a Sanctuary jurisdiction through noncompliance of Section 642 of the Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 (8 U.S.C. 1373).
- Brooks (AL)** #114 **REVISED** Eliminates federal funding for the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars.
- Brown (MD)** #61 Prohibits funds to be used to include in the 2019-2024 National Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Proposed Program an oil and gas lease sale in any area categorized as 'No Oil and Gas Activity' in the DoD Mission Compatibility Planning Assessment: BOEM 2017-2022 Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Draft Proposed Program, published on October 30, 2015.
- Buchanan (FL)** #51 Restores \$7,877,000 to the Fish and Wildlife Service for

new listings under the Endangered Species Act, level with final FY 2018 funding. Reduces the Office of the Secretary by the same amount.

- Burgess (TX)** #157 **LATE** Places a funding limitation on the EPA's ability to utilize the Title 42 special pay authority.
- Byrne (AL),  
Babin (TX),  
Higgins, Clay  
(LA), Palazzo  
(MS), Scalise (LA)** #110 Prevents the re-purposing of Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act funds.
- Carbajal (CA)** #13 States that none of the funds made available by this Act may be used to process any application under the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (43 U.S.C. 1331 et seq.) for a permit to drill or a permit to modify, that would authorize use of hydraulic fracturing or acid well stimulation treatment in the Pacific Outer Continental Shelf.
- Carbajal (CA)** #15 Increases funding by \$5.4 million to ensure EPA can help protect communities from the impacts of oil spills.
- Carter, Buddy  
(GA)** #62 **WITHDRAWN** Prevents funds from being use to implement a rule requiring Tier 4 marine engines on commercial vessels until those Tier 4 marine engines are available for vessels with various restrictions, such as pilot boats.
- Castor (FL),  
Rooney, Francis  
(FL), Crist (FL)** #77 **REVISED** States that no funds may be used to include (a) any area of the Eastern Gulf of Mexico that is referred to in section 104(a) of the Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act of 2006; (b) the portion of the South Atlantic Planning Area south of 30 degrees 43 minutes North Latitude; or (c) the Straits of Florida Planning Area in any OCS leasing program developed under OCSLA Section 18.
- Castor (FL),  
Rooney, Francis  
(FL), Crist (FL)** #78 **REVISED** States that no oil and gas leasing or preleasing or any related activity may be offered of any tract located in (a) any area of the Eastern Gulf of Mexico that is referred to in section 104(a) of the Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act of 2006; (b) the portion of the South Atlantic Planning Area south of 30 degrees 43 minutes North Latitude; or (c) the Straits of Florida Planning Area.
- Castor (FL),  
Rooney, Francis  
(FL), Crist (FL)** #93 **REVISED** Provides that no funds may be made available to install a private phone booth in or near the office of the Secretary of the Interior.
- Cicilline (RI)** #41 Prohibits oil and gas drilling off of the coast of New England.
- Cleaver (MO)** #125 **LATE** Affirms the support of Congress for the construction

- of the World War I Memorial at Pershing Park in Washington, D.C. and urges other Federal Agencies, as appropriate, to support and participate in commemoration activities.
- Clyburn (SC), Adams (NC), Sewell (AL)** #18 Increases funding by \$2 million for Historic Preservation Fund grants to Historically Black Colleges and Universities.
- Cohen (TN)** #58 Prohibits the use of funds to enter into any new contract, grant, or cooperative agreement with any Trump related business listed in the President Trump’s Annual Financial Disclosure Report submitted to the Office of Government Ethics as well as certain Trump related properties listed on the Trump Organization’s website. The specific properties are listed in the amendment.
- Cohen (TN)** #67 Prohibits the use of funds to enter into any new contract, grant, or cooperative agreement with any Trump related business listed in the President Trump’s Annual Financial Disclosure Report submitted to the Office of Government Ethics. The specific properties are listed in the amendment.
- Connolly (VA), Price, David (NC)** #29 Prohibits funds from being used to change or modify the 2015 federal coal ash rule (80 Fed. Reg. 21301 (April 17, 2015)).
- Connolly (VA), Beyer (VA)** #30 Prohibit funds to finalize EPA rulemakings initiated by former Administrator Pruitt until the Inspector General’s investigations into the former Administrator’s activities are complete.
- Courtney (CT), Larson, John (CT)** #103 Provides funding for the U.S. Geological Survey to develop a map showing pyrrhotite occurrences across the United States.
- Courtney (CT), Larson, John (CT), Neal (MA), Esty (CT), DeLauro (CT), Himes (CT), McGovern (MA)** #105 Designates \$300,000 within the Operation of the National Park System for the New England Scenic Trail.
- Cramer, Kevin (ND)** #1 Prevents implementation of the Bureau of Land Management Waste Prevention, Production Subject to Royalties, and Resource Conservation rule.
- DeGette (CO), Dingell (MI)** #109 Prohibits funding being used to implement, administer, or enforce EPA’s Memorandum relating to Conditional No Action Assurance Regarding Small Manufacturers of Glider Vehicles.

- Delaney (MD)** #42 Prohibits funds from being used to implement DOI Secretarial Orders 3349 and 3360.
- Denham (CA)** #60 Prevents federal funds from being used to implement the State of California’s Bay-Delta Plan.
- Denham (CA)** #153 **LATE** Increases the WIFIA administrative expenses account by \$2 million and decreases the DOI Office of the Secretary account by the same amount.
- Dingell (MI),  
Moolenaar (MI)** #75 **REVISED** Increases USGS funding by \$250,000 for fisheries assessment to continue and expand advanced technologies research in the Ecosystem Fisheries Program in accordance with Congressional direction that mission areas and accounts would be maintained at the enacted level.
- Duncan (SC),  
Brooks (AL),  
Biggs (AZ)** #66 Prevents funds from going to local governments that permit individuals who are not citizens of the United States to vote in elections for state or local office.
- Dunn (FL)** #90 Prohibits use of funds made available by the Act to add the Panama City crawfish to the list of endangered and threatened wildlife published under the Endangered Species Act of 1973.
- Emmer (MN),  
Nolan (MN)** #71 Prohibits funding from being used to implement a January 13, 2017 effort by the U.S. Department of Interior and Agriculture to restrict all leasing, exploration, and potential development of approximately 234,328 acres of federal land in Northeast Minnesota.
- Esty (CT),  
McKinley (WV)** #82 Increases funding to “brownfields projects” within the State and Tribal Assistance Grants (STAG) by \$10 million by pulling \$10 million from the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to help cities and towns clean up brownfield sites in their local communities by .
- Gallego (AZ)** #132 **LATE** Ensures none of the funds made available by this Act may be used to implement the Presidential Proclamation entitled “Modifying the Bears Ears National Monument” issued on December 4, 2017.
- Gallego (AZ)** #133 **LATE** Ensures none of the funds made available by this Act may be used to issue any permit for mineral exploration or mining on lands reserved under the Presidential Proclamation entitled “Establishment of the Bears Ears National Monument” issued on December 28, 2016.
- Gallego (AZ)** #134 **LATE** Ensures none of the funds made available by this Act may be used to issue grazing permits or leases in contravention of BLM regulations.
- Garamendi (CA),  
McNerney (CA),** #32 Strikes Section 437. Section 437 prohibits judicial review of California WaterFix.

**Huffman (CA),  
Bera (CA),  
Lofgren (CA)**

**Garamendi (CA), #33** Strikes Section 44 which prohibits judicial review of CALFED projects, the Central Valley Project (CVP) and the State Water Project (SWP).  
**McNerney (CA),  
Huffman (CA),  
Bera (CA),  
Lofgren (CA)**

**Gianforte (MT) #159** **LATE REVISED** Allows for voluntary consultation by the Secretary of Agriculture if new information regarding a species or critical habitat could affect a land management plan.

**Goodlatte (VA), #5** Prohibits the Environmental Protection Agency from using any funds to take retaliatory, or EPA described “backstop” actions, against any of the six states in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed in the event that a state does not meet the goals mandated by the EPA’s Chesapeake Bay Total Maximum Daily Load.  
**Thompson, Glenn  
(PA), Shuster  
(PA), Perry (PA)**

**Gosar (AZ) #167** **LATE** Helps meet U.S. energy security needs, provide for the common defense and ensure the availability of certain critical minerals by prohibiting funds to carryout Public Land Order 7787.

**Grijalva (AZ) #95** The amendment prohibits funds for the construction of a border wall in the Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge.

**Grijalva (AZ) #96** Increases the budget for the Department of the Interior Inspector General’s Office by \$2.5 million.

**Grijalva (AZ) #97** Ensures no funds may be used to consider uranium as a critical mineral under EO 13817 (Dec. 20, 2017).

**Grijalva (AZ) #100** Prohibits funds for trophy hunting permits authorizing importation from any country of an elephant trophy or lion trophy from Zimbabwe, Zambia, or Tanzania.

**Grijalva (AZ) #142** **LATE** Prohibits funds for modifying or revoking national monuments established by the Antiquities Act.

**Grothman (WI) #143** **LATE** Prohibits funds made available by this Act to be used to implement or enforce the EPA’s ground level ozone rule.

**Grothman (WI) #169** **LATE** Reduces funding for the National Endowment on the Arts and the Humanities by 15 percent.

**Hanabusa (HI), #39** Increases the USGS Surveys, Investigations and Research account by \$4,798,500, intended to be used for the Volcano Hazards Program to ameliorate impacts caused by volcanic eruptions.  
**Gabbard (HI),  
Young, Don (AK)**

**Heck, Denny #91** Directs EPA to fund the Clean Watersheds Needs Survey.

(WA)

- Hice, Jody (GA)** #163 **LATE** States that no funds should be made available for the execution of any program conducted by the Office of Environmental Justice.
- Hudson (NC)** #49 **WITHDRAWN** Increases the Capital Improvement and Maintenance account for Forest Service road repairs.
- Huffman (CA)** #45 States no funds shall be used to reassign or transfer members of the Senior Executive Service at the Department of the Interior.
- Huffman (CA)** #46 States no funds shall be used to withdraw the EPA Region 10 proposed determination to protect the Bristol Bay watershed and wild salmon from the impacts of the Pebble Mine.
- Huffman (CA)** #47 **REVISED** States none of the funds may be used for implementation of Section 20001 of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, related to oil and gas development in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.
- Huffman (CA), Reichert (WA), Kilmer (WA), Carbajal (CA), Lowenthal (CA), McEachin (VA), Connolly (VA), Bonamici (OR), Soto (FL)** #48 States none of the funds may be used for oil and gas leasing or activities in the Pacific Region of the Outer Continental Shelf.
- Jackson Lee (TX)** #144 **LATE WITHDRAWN** Expresses support for National Historic Areas and for continuation of national policy to preserve for public use historic sites, buildings, and objects of national significance.
- Jackson Lee (TX)** #145 **LATE WITHDRAWN** Prohibits funds to be used to limit outreach programs administered by the Smithsonian Institution.
- Jackson Lee (TX)** #146 **LATE WITHDRAWN** Prohibits the use of funds to eliminate or restrict programs aimed at reforestation of urban areas.
- Jackson Lee (TX)** #154 **LATE** Prohibits funds to be used to limit outreach programs administered by the Smithsonian Institution.
- Jackson Lee (TX)** #155 **LATE** Prohibits the use of funds to eliminate or restrict programs aimed at reforestation of urban areas.
- Jackson Lee (TX)** #156 **LATE** Expresses support for National Historic Areas and for continuation of national policy to preserve for public use historic sites, buildings, and objects of national significance.

- Jackson Lee (TX)** #161 **LATE** Prohibits funds to be used to house migrant children who have been involuntarily separated from family members or responsible adults.
- Jackson Lee (TX)** #164 **LATE** Increases by \$500,000 the amount of funds provided for the Historic Preservation Fund to be used for competitive grants for the survey and nomination of properties to the National Register of Historic Places and as National Historic Landmarks associated with communities currently under-represented.
- Jackson Lee (TX)** #165 **LATE** States that of the funds provided for the Historic Preservation Fund, increase by \$1,000,000 those funds allocated for grants to Historically Black Colleges and Universities.
- Jackson Lee (TX)** #166 **LATE** Reduces by \$1,000,000 then increase by \$1,000,000 the amount of funds available for workers compensation and unemployment compensation associated with the orderly closure of the U.S. Bureau of Mines and other related purposes.
- Jayapal (WA),  
Barragán, (CA),  
Ruiz (CA),  
McEachin (VA)** #52 Prohibits funds from being used to contravene Executive Order 12898 relating to Federal actions to address environmental justice in minority populations and low-income populations.
- Jayapal (WA),  
Quigley (IL),  
Cohen (TN),  
Castor (FL),  
Beyer (VA), Titus  
(NV), Cicilline  
(RI)** #53 Prohibits any changes to the National Park Service rule preventing fringe hunting.
- Jayapal (WA),  
McEachin (VA),  
Ruiz (CA),  
Barragán, (CA)** #54 Reduces then adds back \$12 million to EPA's Superfund account to underscore the importance of Superfund enforcement.
- Jayapal (WA),  
McEachin (VA),  
Smith, Adam  
(WA), Ruiz (CA),  
Barragán, (CA)** #55 Increases the amount available for EPA's environmental justice grants to \$16 million.
- Jeffries (NY),  
Huffman (CA),  
Jackson Lee (TX)** #150 **LATE** Prohibits use of funds by the National Park Service to purchase or display a confederate flag except in situations where such flags would provide historical context pursuant to a National Park Service memorandum.
- Johnson (OH),  
Griffith (VA)** #92 Restores the number of Appalachian states eligible for grants for the reclamation of abandoned mine lands to be

		used for economic and community development from 3 to 6.
<b>Johnson (OH), Griffith (VA)</b>	#94	<b>REVISED</b> Provides for a balanced distribution of funds among Appalachian states for reclamation of abandoned mine lands in conjunction with economic and community development, offset by funds from the Environmental Programs and Management account.
<b>Katko (NY), Heck, Denny (WA)</b>	#112	<b>REVISED</b> Restores funding for capitalization grants for the Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Funds, equal to the funding appropriated by the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2018.
<b>Keating (MA)</b>	#101	Prohibits funds from being used to take Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal land out of trust.
<b>Keating (MA)</b>	#102	Funds the Cape Cod National Seashore Advisory Commission.
<b>Keating (MA)</b>	#104	Allocates funding for research into PFAS mitigation and harmful impacts.
<b>Keating (MA)</b>	#140	<b>LATE</b> Allocating funding for states and localities to improve water filtration systems to address extreme PFAS levels in municipal drinking water.
<b>Kildee (MI), Walberg (MI)</b>	#9	Increases funding to USGS to eradicate grass carp by \$1 million. Reduces funding from the Office of the Interior Secretary by the same amount.
<b>Kustoff (TN), Comer (KY)</b>	#151	<b>LATE REVISED</b> Reduces and increases by \$5,000,000 the amount of funding appropriated to the United States Fish and Wildlife Service Agency Resource Management Program for controlling Invasive Asian Carp in the Mississippi and Ohio River Basins and preventing them from entering and establishing in the inland river systems of Alabama, Kentucky, and Tennessee.
<b>LaMalfa (CA)</b>	#135	<b>LATE REVISED</b> Directs additional funds to the National Forest System account for purposes of eradicating, enforcing, and remediating illegal marijuana grow operations on National Forest System land.
<b>Lamborn (CO)</b>	#68	Prohibits the use of funds to implement or enforce the threatened species or endangered species listing of any plant or wildlife that has not undergone a review as required by section 4(c)(2) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973.
<b>Lamborn (CO)</b>	#70	Prohibits the use of funds to implement or enforce the threatened species listing of the Preble's meadow jumping mouse under the Endangered Species Act.
<b>Lance (NJ)</b>	#86	<b>WITHDRAWN</b> Sets aside \$6 million dollars from the "Fish Wildlife Service – Resource Management" account for the Delaware River Basin Restoration Program.

<b>Lance (NJ)</b>	#87	<b>REVISED</b> Increases funding for the Delaware River Basin Restoration Program by \$1 million.
<b>Langevin (RI), Cicilline (RI), Keating (MA), Kennedy (MA)</b>	#31	<b>REVISED</b> Provides funding for the Southern New England Estuaries Program under EPA Geographic Programs.
<b>Lawrence (MI)</b>	#4	States that none of the funds made available in this Act may be used to limit the functions of the EPA's Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization.
<b>Lieu (CA), Gallego (AZ), Welch (VT)</b>	#40	States none of the funds made available in this Division may be used to make a payment to or reimburse expenses incurred at Trump Organization properties.
<b>Lipinski (IL)</b>	#124	<b>LATE REVISED</b> Increases the Clean Water State Revolving Fund and the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund each by \$10 million. Reduces the appropriation for the Department of the Interior Office of the Secretary and the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management each by \$10 million.
<b>Loudermilk (GA), Griffith (VA)</b>	#2	<b>REVISED</b> Prohibits funds from being used to regulate trailers under the Clean Air Act.
<b>Lowenthal (CA)</b>	#56	<b>REVISED</b> Prohibits funds from being used to delay implementation or repeal provisions of the BLM methane waste prevention rule.
<b>Lowenthal (CA)</b>	#57	Prohibits funds from being used to implement any recommendations of the Royalty Policy Committee that are outside the scope of the committee described in the Royalty Policy Committee charter.
<b>Lujan (NM)</b>	#12	<b>REVISED</b> Decreases and increases State and Tribal Assistance Grants by \$4 million to direct the EPA to work with the affected States and Indian tribes to a long-term monitoring program for water quality of the Animas and San Juan Rivers in response to the Gold King Mine spill as authorized by the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act.
<b>Matsui (CA), DeSaulnier (CA), Huffman (CA)</b>	#88	<b>REVISED</b> Prohibits the EPA from using funds to propose a rule to end the One National Program for greenhouse gas emissions and fuel economy standards for light-duty vehicles.
<b>McEachin (VA), Beyer (VA)</b>	#36	Refunds the National Academy of Sciences study "Potential Human Health Effects of Surface Coal Mining Operations in Center Appalachia."
<b>McEachin (VA)</b>	#37	Prevents funds from being used to reduce, consolidate, or terminate the EPA's National Center for Environmental Research, or grants or research carried out by the National

		Center for Environmental Research.
<b>McEachin (VA)</b>	#98	<b>REVISED</b> Prevents DOI from obstructing an investigation by the Government Accountability Office, Office of Special Counsel, or DOI Inspector General.
<b>McEachin (VA)</b>	#99	Transfers funds from the Office of the Secretary to the Human Capital and Diversity office in the Office of Policy, Management and Budget to conduct a employee climate survey on harassment.
<b>McMorris Rodgers (WA)</b>	#14	Limits funding for the implementation of Washington State's revised water quality standard.
<b>Moore, Gwen (WI)</b>	#16	Boosts funding for the Smithsonian by \$500,000 to better support efforts, including the creation of temporary or permanent exhibits, that better tell and increase understanding and education about the history, voices, and narratives of underrepresented communities, including African-Americans and tribal communities.
<b>Moore, Gwen (WI)</b>	#17	<b>REVISED</b> Maintains FY 2018 funding for an authorized program to address lead in drinking water.
<b>Moore, Gwen (WI)</b>	#34	Bars the use of funds to reorganize or eliminate the Great Lakes Advisory Board.
<b>Moore, Gwen (WI)</b>	#116	States that none of the funds made available by this act may be used in contravention of Executive Order 13627, which strengthens protections against trafficking in persons in Federal contracting.
<b>Moore, Gwen (WI)</b>	#126	<b>LATE REVISED</b> Increases funding for the NEA to support a program of activities to commemorate the International Decade for People of African Descent and build greater appreciation and understanding of the history and heritage of people of African descent.
<b>Mullin, Markwayne (OK), Perry (PA)</b>	#138	<b>LATE</b> Prohibits the use of funds for enforcing the Obama Administration's EPA Methane Rule.
<b>Mullin, Markwayne (OK), Gohmert (TX), Gosar (AZ), Perry (PA), Gianforte (MT)</b>	#139	<b>LATE</b> Prohibits funds from implementing the Social Cost of Carbon rule.
<b>Norman (SC)</b>	#22	Transfers \$12 million from provisions of the Woodrow Wilson International Center to the United States Geological Survey agency.
<b>O'Halleran (AZ)</b>	#19	Reduces Interior operations funds and increase BIA construction funds by 10 million dollars.

- O'Halleran (AZ)** #20 Reduces and increases by \$36,000,000 the amount of funding appropriated to the Bureau of Indian Affairs construction account for public safety and justice facility construction.
- O'Halleran (AZ)** #21 **REVISED** Moves \$3,000,000 from the Office of the Special Trustee to the Office of Navajo-Hopi Indian Relocation.
- O'Halleran (AZ)** #27 Prohibits changes to Public Land Order 7787 using funds appropriated in this act.
- Pallone (NJ), Wasserman Schultz (FL), Sarbanes (MD), Moulton (MA), Beyer (VA), McEachin (VA), Connolly (VA), Bonamici (OR), Deutch (FL), Soto (FL), Clyburn (SC), Pingree (ME), Adams (NC), Payne, Jr. (NJ), Pascrell (NJ)** #7 **REVISED** States that none of the funds made available by this Act may be used to research, investigate, or study offshore drilling or conduct a lease sale for the development or production of oil and gas in any area located in the North Atlantic, Mid-Atlantic, South Atlantic, or Straits of Florida Outer Continental Shelf Planning Area.
- Palmer (AL)** #64 Ensures that none of the funds made available by this Act may be used for the Environmental Protection Agency's Criminal Enforcement Division.
- Palmer (AL)** #65 Eliminates funding for Diesel Emission Reduction Grants and sends the savings to the spending reduction account.
- Pearce (NM)** #117 Prevents funds from being used to treat the New Mexico Meadow Jumping Mouse as an endangered species.
- Pearce (NM), Marshall (KS)** #118 Prevents funds from being used to carry out any rule-making on the status of the Lesser Prairie Chicken
- Perry (PA)** #148 **LATE** Prohibits the use of funds for any federal advisory committee of the EPA that is not in compliance with the directive entitled "Strengthening and Improving Membership on EPA Federal Advisory Committees" published by the EPA on October 31, 2017.
- Perry (PA)** #149 **LATE** Prohibits the EPA from using funds to give formal notification under, or prepare, propose, implement, administer, or enforce any rule or recommendation pursuant to, section 115 of the Clean Air Act.

<b>Perry (PA)</b>	#160 <b>LATE</b> Prohibits the use of funds to implement or enforce section 211(o) of the Clean Air Act (relating to the renewable fuel program).
<b>Peters, Scott (CA), Smith, Adam (WA), Delaney (MD)</b>	#83 Prohibits funds from being used to hinder, suppress, or block any report required by statute related to climate change and would prohibit funds from being used to suppress communications to the public, or any Congressional entity, regarding science related to climate change.
<b>Peterson (MN)</b>	#63 Requires the Department of Interior to conduct a study on best drainage water management practices on publicly-owned lands and wetlands to reduce the risk of flooding.
<b>Pingree (ME)</b>	#115 <b>REVISED</b> Requires that Department of the Interior funds in the bill shall be available for obligation not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act.
<b>Plaskett, (VI)</b>	#69 Strengthens necessary support for insular territories of the United States (to equal Senate levels).
<b>Poe (TX), Olson (TX)</b>	#131 <b>LATE</b> Reduces by \$20,000,000 and then increases by the same amount the National Recreation and Preservation account with intent to use the funds for the National Maritime Heritage grant program.
<b>Polis (CO)</b>	#107 Increases funds for hazardous fuels management activities by \$10 million, decreases funds provided for forest products by the same amount.
<b>Polis (CO), Ruiz (CA), King, Peter (NY)</b>	#108 Increases state and forestry private account by \$2 million to add funding for Volunteer Fire Assistance grant program, and decreases Wildland Fire Management account by the same amount.
<b>Polis (CO)</b>	#170 <b>LATE</b> Decreases funds for the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management used for oil and gas by \$2 million, and applies the funds to the spending reduction account.
<b>Price, David (NC), Barragán, (CA), Crist (FL), Buchanan (FL), Rooney, Francis (FL)</b>	#80 No funds may be used to make changes to the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement well control rule and production safety systems rule.
<b>Quigley (IL), Connolly (VA), Pingree (ME)</b>	#137 <b>LATE</b> Requires the EPA Administrator and Deputy Administrator to publicly disclose all travel costs paid by EPA within 10 days of travel.
<b>Renacci (OH), Moulton (MA)</b>	#158 <b>LATE</b> Increases the lifetime federal funding cap for the Essex National Heritage Area, Ohio and Erie National Heritage Canalway, and the Rivers of Steel National Heritage Area from \$17 million to \$19 million.

<b>Rice, Kathleen (NY)</b>	#152	<b>LATE</b> Prohibits funds to the Fish and Wildlife Service for issuing permits for importing elephant trophies.
<b>Rosen (NV)</b>	#43	Ensures that no funds are used to create a net loss of access to recreational hunting or fishing on public lands.
<b>Rosen (NV)</b>	#44	Prohibits the use of funds to change the designations of Gold Butte National Monument and Basin and Range National Monument as national monuments.
<b>Ruiz (CA), Cook (CA)</b>	#81	States that no funding made available by this act shall be used to divert water being conveyed from the San Bernardino National Forest to the city of Banning, California.
<b>Sanford (SC)</b>	#23	<b>REVISED</b> Prohibits funds to conduct offshore drilling and seismic testing
<b>Sewell (AL)</b>	#89	Increases funding for competitive grants to preserve the sites and stories of the Civil Rights Movement by \$2,500,000, and reduces departmental operations for the Office of the Secretary of Interior by the same amount.
<b>Smith, Jason (MO), Gianforte (MT)</b>	#3	Prevents the payment of attorney's fees as part of any settlement the Federal Government enters into under the Clean Air Act, the Clean Water Act, and the Endangered Species Act.
<b>Smith, Jason (MO)</b>	#127	<b>LATE</b> Prevents funds from being used to designate critical habitat on private land under the Endangered Species Act.
<b>Soto (FL)</b>	#72	Increases funding for the National Estuary Program by \$468,000.
<b>Soto (FL)</b>	#79	Prohibits the Secretary of the Interior from acting in contradiction of section 104(a) of the Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act of 2006.
<b>Soto (FL)</b>	#84	Increases funding for the National Wildlife Refuge System by \$500,000 for the Wildlife and Habitat Management of invasive species.
<b>Soto (FL)</b>	#85	<b>WITHDRAWN</b> Prohibits the removal of the Florida Panther from the endangered species list.
<b>Taylor (VA)</b>	#73	States no funds may be used to conduct a lease sale for oil and gas production or development in any area within the North Atlantic or Mid Atlantic Planning area.
<b>Taylor (VA)</b>	#74	States no funds may be used to conduct a lease sale for oil and gas production or development in any area within the offshore administrative boundaries of the State of Virginia.
<b>Thompson, Glenn (PA)</b>	#136	<b>LATE</b> Restores funding for the Abandoned Mine Land Reclamation pilot program by \$25,000,000 while reducing EPA's Environmental Programs and Management by the

	same amount.
<b>Tonko (NY), Curbelo (FL), Costello (PA), Johnson, Eddie Bernice (TX), Price, David (NC)</b>	#38 Prohibits funding to be used to finalize, implement, administer, or enforce EPA’s Strengthening Transparency in Regulatory Science proposed rule.
<b>Torres (CA)</b>	#162 <b>LATE REVISED</b> Prevents the use of funds to carry out a reorganization of the Department of the Interior, unless all Tribes likely to be impacted by such reorganization have been meaningfully consulted and concerns raised in the context of such consultations have been adequately addressed.
<b>Vargas (CA), Davis, Susan (CA), Peters, Scott (CA)</b>	#59 Increases funding for the U.S.-Mexico Border Water Infrastructure Program by \$5 million.
<b>Wasserman Schultz (FL)</b>	#8 Restricts funding from being used to conduct an oil and gas lease sale on the Outer Continental Shelf in the Mid-Atlantic, South Atlantic, Straits of Florida, or Eastern Gulf of Mexico planning area, as such planning areas are depicted in the leasing program prepared under section 18 of the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (43 U.S.C. 1344), entitled the “2017–2022 Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Proposed Final Program.”
<b>Welch (VT)</b>	#119 <b>REVISED</b> Prohibits the EPA from issuing Renewable Volume Obligations under the Renewable Fuel Standard that will worsen environmental outcomes as reported in the Second Triennial Report to Congress (U.S. EPA. Biofuels and the Environment: The Second Triennial Report to Congress. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Washington, DC, EPA/600/R-18/195, 2018.)”
<b>Welch (VT)</b>	#120 <b>REVISED</b> Prohibits EPA from using any funds to issue Small Refinery Waivers under the Renewable Fuel Standard without making public, through press release and publishing on the EPA’s website, the following information: name of company granted a waiver; reason for the waiver; number of gallons covered by the waiver; and, the impact of the waiver on overall RVO for the year.
<b>Welch (VT)</b>	#122 <b>REVISED</b> Increases and decreases the State and Private Forestry Account account by \$5 million to indicate that the amount should be used to help mitigate the spread of and the Emerald Ash Borer.
<b>Welch (VT),</b>	#123 <b>REVISED</b> Increases funding for the Lake Champlain Basin

- Stefanik (NY)** Program by \$4 million to the FY18 enacted level. Decreases the Office of the Secretary of Interior account by the same amount.
- Welch (VT)** #141 **REVISED** Prohibits the EPA from developing, implementing, or enforcing new regulations altering the Reid vapor pressure limitations of section 211(h) of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7545(h)).”
- Young, Don (AK)** #10 Prevents funds from being used to change existing placer mining plan of operations with regard to reclamation activities.
- Young, Don (AK)** #11 Exempts National Forests in Alaska from the Roadless Rule.

**From:** (b) (6)  
**To:** [jim\\_kurth@fws.gov](mailto:jim_kurth@fws.gov); [stephen\\_quertin@fws.gov](mailto:stephen_quertin@fws.gov); [Gregory J Sheehan, Acting Director, FWS](mailto:Gregory.J.Sheehan@fws.gov); [rebekah\\_giddings@fws.gov](mailto:rebekah_giddings@fws.gov); [barbara\\_wainman@fws.gov](mailto:barbara_wainman@fws.gov)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Divisions A (Interior) and B (FSGG) of H.R. 6147 - Summary of Amendments Submitted v3  
**Date:** Thursday, July 12, 2018 3:22:44 PM  
**Attachments:** [Summary of Amendments v3.pdf](#)  
[ATT00001.htm](#)

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All,  
This just in....see Adams 106.  
Denise

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Mark Mioduski <[mmioduski@cgagroup.com](mailto:mmioduski@cgagroup.com)>  
**Date:** July 12, 2018 at 1:32:35 PM EDT  
**To:** JSisson7373 (b) (6) >  
**Subject:** FW: Divisions A (Interior) and B (FSGG) of H.R. 6147 - Summary of Amendments Submitted v3

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**From:** Hodgkins, Caitlin <[caitlin.hodgkins@mail.house.gov](mailto:caitlin.hodgkins@mail.house.gov)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 12, 2018 12:46 PM  
**To:** Hodgkins, Caitlin <[caitlin.hodgkins@mail.house.gov](mailto:caitlin.hodgkins@mail.house.gov)>  
**Subject:** Divisions A (Interior) and B (FSGG) of H.R. 6147 - Summary of Amendments Submitted v3

**Please see LATE #123 - #153**  
**REVISED Adams #121, Pingree #115, Brooks #114, Moore #17, Huffman #47, Dingell #75, O'Halleran #21**

**Summary of Amendments Submitted to the Rules Committee for  
Division A of H.R. 6147 - Department of the Interior, Environment, and  
Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2019**

(summaries derived from information provided by sponsors)

Listed in Alphabetical Order

Jul 11, 2018 6:01PM

***Click on sponsor for amendment text.***

<b><u>Abraham (LA), Westerman (AR)</u></b>	<b><u>#35</u></b> Prevents the enforcement of limitations or prohibitions on the use of GMO seed in commercial agricultural operations conducted on National Wildlife Refuges.
<b><u>Adams (NC)</u></b>	<b><u>#106</u></b> States that no funds shall be used to carry out reassignments of Senior Executive Service members without an analysis of agency diversity and needs.
<b><u>Adams (NC)</u></b>	<b><u>#121</u></b> <b>REVISED</b> Decreases and then increases the EPA Environmental Programs and Management account fund by \$742,000. This increase is to emphasize the need for greater funding for the Environmental Justice program area within the account.
<b><u>Barragán, (CA)</u></b>	<b><u>#6</u></b> Prohibits funds for the Department of the Interior to issue a permit for any oil and gas drilling operation that is located within 1,500 feet of a home, school, or other building that requires special protection.
<b><u>Beyer (VA), Norton (DC)</u></b>	<b><u>#24</u></b> Funds Interior’s body camera pilot program for Law Enforcement Officers.
<b><u>Beyer (VA)</u></b>	<b><u>#25</u></b> Strikes section 431, which repeals the Clean Water Rule
<b><u>Beyer (VA)</u></b>	<b><u>#26</u></b> Strikes section 430, which allows a loophole in Federal water quality permitting requirements for pollution discharges.
<b><u>Beyer (VA)</u></b>	<b><u>#28</u></b> Strip all ESA riders.
<b><u>Beyer (VA)</u></b>	<b><u>#76</u></b> Strikes section which legislates that biomass be treated as carbon neutral.
<b><u>Beyer (VA)</u></b>	<b><u>#130</u></b> <b>LATE</b> Bans the use of funds for keeping multiple calendars for the Administrator of the EPA, the Secretary of the Interior, and their Deputy Secretaries.
<b><u>Beyer (VA), Blumenauer (OR)</u></b>	<b><u>#147</u></b> <b>LATE</b> Reduces the Department of Interior’s Office of the Secretary account by \$1 million and increases the Environmental Protection Agency’s Office of the Inspector General’s account by \$1 million.
<b><u>Biggs (AZ)</u></b>	<b><u>#111</u></b> Transfers funds from the Forest Service land acquisition account to the spending reduction account.
<b><u>Biggs (AZ)</u></b>	<b><u>#128</u></b> <b>LATE</b> Transfers funds from the NPS land acquisition account to Indian Education.

- Biggs (AZ)** #129 **LATE** Transfers funds from the BLM Land acquisition account to the NPS Parks Maintenance Backlog.
- Blumenauer (OR), Turner (OH), Heck, Denny (WA), Courtney (CT), Smith, Adam (WA), Katko (NY)** #50 Increases the Historic Preservation Fund by \$5 million to restore level funding with FY 2018.
- Brooks (AL), Duncan (SC), Biggs (AZ)** #113 Prohibits funds appropriated under this act from being made available to any state or local government that is designated a Sanctuary jurisdiction through noncompliance of Section 642 of the Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 (8 U.S.C. 1373).
- Brooks (AL)** #114 **REVISED** Eliminates federal funding for the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars.
- Brown (MD)** #61 Prohibits funds to be used to include in the 2019-2024 National Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Proposed Program an oil and gas lease sale in any area categorized as 'No Oil and Gas Activity' in the DoD Mission Compatibility Planning Assessment: BOEM 2017-2022 Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Draft Proposed Program, published on October 30, 2015.
- Buchanan (FL)** #51 Restores \$7,877,000 to the Fish and Wildlife Service for new listings under the Endangered Species Act, level with final FY 2018 funding. Reduces the Office of the Secretary by the same amount.
- Byrne (AL)** #110 Prevents the re-purposing of Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act funds.
- Carbajal (CA)** #13 States that none of the funds made available by this Act may be used to process any application under the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (43 U.S.C. 1331 et seq.) for a permit to drill or a permit to modify, that would authorize use of hydraulic fracturing or acid well stimulation treatment in the Pacific Outer Continental Shelf.
- Carbajal (CA)** #15 Increases funding by \$5.4 million to ensure EPA can help protect communities from the impacts of oil spills.

<b><u>Carter, Buddy (GA)</u></b>	<b><u>#62</u></b> Prevents funds from being use to implement a rule requiring Tier 4 marine engines on commercial vessels until those Tier 4 marine engines are available for vessels with various restrictions, such as pilot boats.
<b><u>Castor (FL), Rooney, Francis (FL), Crist (FL)</u></b>	<b><u>#77</u></b> Provides that no funds may be used to include (a) any area of the Eastern Gulf of Mexico that is referred to in section 104(a) of the Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act of 2006; (b) the portion of the South Atlantic Planning Area south of 30 degrees 43 minutes North Latitude; or (c) the Straits of Florida Planning Area in any OCS leasing program developed under OCSLA Section 18.
<b><u>Castor (FL), Rooney, Francis (FL), Crist (FL)</u></b>	<b><u>#78</u></b> Provides that no oil and gas leasing or preleasing or any related activity may be offered of any tract located in (a) any area of the Eastern Gulf of Mexico that is referred to in section 104(a) of the Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act of 2006; (b) the portion of the South Atlantic Planning Area south of 30 degrees 43 minutes North Latitude; or (c) the Straits of Florida Planning Area.
<b><u>Castor (FL), Rooney, Francis (FL), Crist (FL)</u></b>	<b><u>#93</u></b> Provides that no funds shall be made available to install a private phone booth for the Secretary of Interior.
<b><u>Cicilline (RI)</u></b>	<b><u>#41</u></b> Prohibits oil and gas drilling off of the coast of New England.
<b><u>Cleaver (MO)</u></b>	<b><u>#125</u></b> <b>LATE</b> Affirms the support of Congress for the construction of the World War I Memorial at Pershing Park in Washington, D.C. and urges other Federal Agencies, as appropriate, to support and participate in commemoration activities.
<b><u>Clyburn (SC), Adams (NC), Sewell (AL)</u></b>	<b><u>#18</u></b> Increases funding by \$2 million for Historic Preservation Fund grants to Historically Black Colleges and Universities.
<b><u>Cohen (TN)</u></b>	<b><u>#58</u></b> Prohibits the use of funds to enter into any new contract, grant, or cooperative agreement with any Trump related business listed in the President Trump's Annual Financial Disclosure Report submitted to the Office of Government Ethics as well as certain Trump related properties listed on the Trump

Organization's website. The specific properties are listed in the amendment.

- Cohen (TN)** #67 Prohibits the use of funds to enter into any new contract, grant, or cooperative agreement with any Trump related business listed in the President Trump's Annual Financial Disclosure Report submitted to the Office of Government Ethics. The specific properties are listed in the amendment.
- Connolly (VA), Price, David (NC)** #29 Prohibits funds from being used to change or modify the 2015 federal coal ash rule (80 Fed. Reg. 21301 (April 17, 2015)).
- Connolly (VA), Beyer (VA)** #30 Prohibit funds to finalize EPA rulemakings initiated by former Administrator Pruitt until the Inspector General's investigations into the former Administrator's activities are complete.
- Courtney (CT), Larson, John (CT)** #103 Provides funding for the U.S. Geological Survey to develop a map showing pyrrhotite occurrences across the United States.
- Courtney (CT), Larson, John (CT), Neal (MA), Esty (CT), DeLauro (CT), Himes (CT), McGovern (MA)** #105 Designates \$300,000 within the Operation of the National Park System for the New England Scenic Trail.
- Cramer, Kevin (ND)** #1 Prevents implementation of the Bureau of Land Management Waste Prevention, Production Subject to Royalties, and Resource Conservation rule.
- DeGette (CO), Dingell (MI)** #109 Prohibits funding being used to implement, administer, or enforce EPA's Memorandum relating to Conditional No Action Assurance Regarding Small Manufacturers of Glider Vehicles.
- Delaney (MD)** #42 Prohibits funds from being used to implement DOI Secretarial Orders 3349 and 3360.
- Denham (CA)** #60 Prevents federal funds from being used to implement the State of California's Bay-Delta Plan.
- Denham (CA)** #153 **LATE** Increases the WIFIA administrative expenses account by \$2 million and decreases the DOI Office of the Secretary account by the same amount.
- Dingell (MI)** #75 **REVISED** Increases USGS funding by \$250,000 for

fisheries assessment to continue and expand advanced technologies research in the Ecosystem Fisheries Program in accordance with Congressional direction that mission areas and accounts would be maintained at the enacted level.

**Duncan (SC),** #66 Prevents funds from going to local governments that permit individuals who are not citizens of the United States to vote in elections for state or local office.  
**Brooks (AL), Biggs (AZ)**

**Dunn (FL)** #90 Prohibits use of funds made available by the Act to add the Panama City crawfish to the list of endangered and threatened wildlife published under the Endangered Species Act of 1973.

**Emmer (MN),** #71 Prohibits funding from being used to implement a January 13, 2017 effort by the U.S. Department of Interior and Agriculture to restrict all leasing, exploration, and potential development of approximately 234,328 acres of federal land in Northeast Minnesota.  
**Nolan (MN)**

**Esty (CT),** #82 Increases funding to “brownfields projects” within the State and Tribal Assistance Grants (STAG) by \$10 million by pulling \$10 million from the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to help cities and towns clean up brownfield sites in their local communities by .  
**McKinley (WV)**

**Gallego (AZ)** #132 **LATE** Ensures none of the funds made available by this Act may be used to implement the Presidential Proclamation entitled “Modifying the Bears Ears National Monument” issued on December 4, 2017.

**Gallego (AZ)** #133 **LATE** Ensures none of the funds made available by this Act may be used to issue any permit for mineral exploration or mining on lands reserved under the Presidential Proclamation entitled “Establishment of the Bears Ears National Monument” issued on December 28, 2016.

**Gallego (AZ)** #134 **LATE** Ensures none of the funds made available by this Act may be used to issue grazing permits or leases in contravention of BLM regulations.

**Garamendi (CA),** #32 Strikes Section 437. Section 437 prohibits judicial review of California WaterFix.  
**McNerney (CA),**  
**Huffman (CA),**  
**Bera (CA)**

<b><u>Garamendi (CA), McNerney (CA), Huffman (CA), Bera (CA)</u></b>	<b><u>#33</u></b>	Strikes Section 44 which prohibits judicial review of CALFED projects, the Central Valley Project (CVP) and the State Water Project (SWP).
<b><u>Goodlatte (VA), Thompson, Glenn (PA), Shuster (PA)</u></b>	<b><u>#5</u></b>	Prohibits the Environmental Protection Agency from using any funds to take retaliatory, or EPA described “backstop” actions, against any of the six states in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed in the event that a state does not meet the goals mandated by the EPA’s Chesapeake Bay Total Maximum Daily Load.
<b><u>Grijalva (AZ)</u></b>	<b><u>#95</u></b>	The amendment prohibits funds for the construction of a border wall in the Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge.
<b><u>Grijalva (AZ)</u></b>	<b><u>#96</u></b>	Increases the budget for the Department of the Interior Inspector General’s Office by \$2.5 million.
<b><u>Grijalva (AZ)</u></b>	<b><u>#97</u></b>	Ensures no funds may be used to consider uranium as a critical mineral under EO 13817 (Dec. 20, 2017).
<b><u>Grijalva (AZ)</u></b>	<b><u>#100</u></b>	Prohibits funds for trophy hunting permits authorizing importation from any country of an elephant trophy or lion trophy from Zimbabwe, Zambia, or Tanzania.
<b><u>Grijalva (AZ)</u></b>	<b><u>#142</u></b>	<b>LATE</b> Prohibits funds for modifying or revoking national monuments established by the Antiquities Act.
<b><u>Grothman (WI)</u></b>	<b><u>#143</u></b>	<b>LATE</b> Prohibits funds made available by this Act to be used to implement or enforce the EPA’s ground level ozone rule.
<b><u>Hanabusa (HI), Gabbard (HI), Young, Don (AK)</u></b>	<b><u>#39</u></b>	Increases the USGS Surveys, Investigations and Research account by \$4,798,500, intended to be used for the Volcano Hazards Program to ameliorate impacts caused by volcanic eruptions.
<b><u>Heck, Denny (WA)</u></b>	<b><u>#91</u></b>	Directs EPA to fund the Clean Watersheds Needs Survey.
<b><u>Hudson (NC)</u></b>	<b><u>#49</u></b>	Increases the Capital Improvement and Maintenance account for Forest Service road repairs.
<b><u>Huffman (CA)</u></b>	<b><u>#45</u></b>	States no funds shall be used to reassign or transfer members of the Senior Executive Service at the Department of the Interior.
<b><u>Huffman (CA)</u></b>	<b><u>#46</u></b>	States no funds shall be used to withdraw the EPA Region 10 proposed determination to protect the

Bristol Bay watershed and wild salmon from the impacts of the Pebble Mine.

- Huffman (CA)** #47 **REVISED** States none of the funds may be used for implementation of Section 20001 of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, related to oil and gas development in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.
- Huffman (CA),  
Reichert (WA),  
Kilmer (WA),  
Carbajal (CA),  
Lowenthal (CA),  
McEachin (VA),  
Connolly (VA),  
Bonamici (OR),  
Soto (FL)** #48 States none of the funds may be used for oil and gas leasing or activities in the Pacific Region of the Outer Continental Shelf.
- Jackson Lee (TX)** #144 **LATE** Expresses support for National Historic Areas and for continuation of national policy to preserve for public use historic sites, buildings, and objects of national significance.
- Jackson Lee (TX)** #145 **LATE** Prohibits funds to be used to limit outreach programs administered by the Smithsonian Institution.
- Jackson Lee (TX)** #146 **LATE** Prohibits the use of funds to eliminate or restrict programs aimed at reforestation of urban areas.
- Jayapal (WA),  
Barragán, (CA),  
Ruiz (CA),  
McEachin (VA)** #52 Prohibits funds from being used to contravene Executive Order 12898 relating to Federal actions to address environmental justice in minority populations and low-income populations.
- Jayapal (WA),  
Quigley (IL),  
Cohen (TN),  
Castor (FL), Beyer  
(VA), Titus (NV),  
Cicilline (RI)** #53 Prohibits any changes to the National Park Service rule preventing fringe hunting.
- Jayapal (WA),  
McEachin (VA),  
Ruiz (CA),  
Barragán, (CA)** #54 Reduces then adds back \$12 million to EPA's Superfund account to underscore the importance of Superfund enforcement.

<b><u>Jayapal (WA), McEachin (VA), Smith, Adam (WA), Ruiz (CA), Barragán, (CA)</u></b>	#55	Increases the amount available for EPA's environmental justice grants to \$16 million.
<b><u>Jeffries (NY), Huffman (CA), Jackson Lee (TX)</u></b>	#150	<b>LATE</b> Prohibits use of funds by the National Park Service to purchase or display a confederate flag except in situations where such flags would provide historical context pursuant to a National Park Service memorandum.
<b><u>Johnson (OH)</u></b>	#92	Restores the number of Appalachian states eligible for grants for the reclamation of abandoned mine lands to be used for economic and community development from 3 to 6.
<b><u>Johnson (OH)</u></b>	#94	Provides for a balanced distribution of funds among Appalachian states for reclamation of abandoned mine lands in conjunction with economic and community development, offset by funds from the Environmental Programs and Management account.
<b><u>Katko (NY), Heck, Denny (WA)</u></b>	#112	Restores funding for capitalization grants for the Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Funds, equal to the funding appropriated by the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2018.
<b><u>Keating (MA)</u></b>	#101	Prohibits funds from being used to take Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal land out of trust.
<b><u>Keating (MA)</u></b>	#102	Funds the Cape Cod National Seashore Advisory Commission.
<b><u>Keating (MA)</u></b>	#104	Allocates funding for research into PFAS mitigation and harmful impacts.
<b><u>Keating (MA)</u></b>	#140	<b>LATE</b> Allocating funding for states and localities to improve water filtration systems to address extreme PFAS levels in municipal drinking water.
<b><u>Kildee (MI), Walberg (MI)</u></b>	#9	Increases funding to USGS to eradicate grass carp by \$1 million. Reduces funding from the Office of the Interior Secretary by the same amount.
<b><u>Kustoff (TN), Comer (KY)</u></b>	#151	<b>LATE</b> Increases funding to the United States Fish and Wildlife Service Agency Resource Management Program by \$5 million to be used for controlling Invasive Asian Carp in the Mississippi and Ohio River

Basins and preventing them from entering and establishing in the inland river systems of Alabama, Kentucky, and Tennessee and reduces the State and Tribal Assistance Grants by \$5 million.

- LaMalfa (CA)** #135 **LATE** Directs additional funds to the National Forest System account for purposes of eradicating, enforcing, and remediating illegal marijuana grow operations on National Forest System land.
- Lamborn (CO)** #68 Prohibits the use of funds to implement or enforce the threatened species or endangered species listing of any plant or wildlife that has not undergone a review as required by section 4(c)(2) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973.
- Lamborn (CO)** #70 Prohibits the use of funds to implement or enforce the threatened species listing of the Preble’s meadow jumping mouse under the Endangered Species Act.
- Lance (NJ)** #86 Sets aside \$6 million dollars from the “Fish Wildlife Service – Resource Management” account for the Delaware River Basin Restoration Program.
- Lance (NJ)** #87 Increases funding for the Delaware River Basin Restoration Program by \$1 million.
- Langevin (RI)** #31 Provides funding for the Southern New England Estuaries Program under EPA Geographic Programs.
- Lawrence (MI)** #4 States that none of the funds made available in this Act may be used to limit the functions of the EPA’s Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization.
- Lieu (CA), Gallego (AZ), Welch (VT)** #40 States none of the funds made available in this Division may be used to make a payment to or reimburse expenses incurred at Trump Organization properties.
- Lipinski (IL)** #124 **LATE** Increases the Clean Water State Revolving Fund and the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund each by \$10 million. Reduces the appropriation for the Department of the Interior Office of the Secretary and the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management each by \$10 million.
- Loudermilk (GA), Griffith (VA)** #2 Prohibits funds from being used to regulate trailers under the Clean Air Act.

- Lowenthal (CA)** #56 Prohibits funds from being used to delay implementation or repeal provisions of the BLM methane waste prevention rule.
- Lowenthal (CA)** #57 Prohibits funds from being used to implement any recommendations of the Royalty Policy Committee that are outside the scope of the committee described in the Royalty Policy Committee charter.
- Lujan (NM)** #12 Decreases and increases State and Tribal Assistance Grants by \$4 million to direct the EPA to work with the affected States and Indian tribes to a long-term monitoring program for water quality of the Animas and San Juan Rivers in response to the Gold King Mine spill as authorized by the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act.
- Matsui (CA),  
DeSaulnier (CA),  
Huffman (CA)** #88 Prohibits the EPA from using funds to propose a rule to end the One National Program for greenhouse gas emissions and fuel economy standards for light-duty vehicles.
- McEachin (VA),  
Beyer (VA)** #36 Refunds the National Academy of Sciences study "Potential Human Health Effects of Surface Coal Mining Operations in Center Appalachia."
- McEachin (VA)** #37 Prevents funds from being used to reduce, consolidate, or terminate the EPA's National Center for Environmental Research, or grants or research carried out by the National Center for Environmental Research.
- McEachin (VA)** #98 Prevents DOI from obstructing an investigation by the GAO, OSC, or DOI Inspector General.
- McEachin (VA)** #99 Transfers funds from the Office of the Secretary to the Human Capital and Diversity office in the Office of Policy, Management and Budget to conduct a employee climate survey on harassment.
- McMorris  
Rodgers (WA)** #14 Limits funding for the implementation of Washington State's revised water quality standard.
- Moore, Gwen  
(WI)** #16 Boosts funding for the Smithsonian by \$500,000 to better support efforts, including the creation of temporary or permanent exhibits, that better tell and increase understanding and education about the history, voices, and narratives of underrepresented

communities, including African-Americans and tribal communities.

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| <b><u>Moore, Gwen (WI)</u></b>   | <b><u>#17</u></b>  | <b>REVISED</b> Maintains FY 2018 funding for an authorized program to address lead in drinking water.  |
| <b><u>Moore, Gwen (WI)</u></b>   | <b><u>#34</u></b>  | Bars the use of funds to reorganize or eliminate the Great Lakes Advisory Board.   |
| <b><u>Moore, Gwen (WI)</u></b>   | <b><u>#116</u></b> | States that none of the funds made available by this act may be used in contravention of Executive Order 13627, which strengthens protections against trafficking in persons in Federal contracting.   |
| <b><u>Moore, Gwen (WI)</u></b>   | <b><u>#126</u></b> | <b>LATE</b> Increases funding for the NEA to support a program of activities to commemorate the International Decade of International Decade for People of African Descent and build greater appreciation and understanding of the history and heritage of people of African descent on American arts and culture. |
| <b><u>Mullin, Markwayne (OK)</u></b>                                       | <b><u>#138</u></b> | <b>LATE</b> Prohibits the use of funds for enforcing the Obama Administration's EPA Methane Rule.  |
| <b><u>Mullin, Markwayne (OK), Gohmert (TX), Gosar (AZ), Perry (PA)</u></b> | <b><u>#139</u></b> | <b>LATE</b> Prohibits funds from implementing the Social Cost of Carbon rule.  |
| <b><u>Norman (SC)</u></b>  | <b><u>#22</u></b>  | Transfers \$12 million from provisions of the Woodrow Wilson International Center to the United States Geological Survey agency.   |
| <b><u>O'Halleran (AZ)</u></b>  | <b><u>#19</u></b>  | Reduces Interior operations funds and increase BIA construction funds by 10 million dollars.   |
| <b><u>O'Halleran (AZ)</u></b>  | <b><u>#20</u></b>  | Reduces and increases by \$36,000,000 the amount of funding appropriated to the Bureau of Indian Affairs construction account for public safety and justice facility construction.   |
| <b><u>O'Halleran (AZ)</u></b>  | <b><u>#21</u></b>  | <b>REVISED</b> Moves \$3,000,000 from the Office of the Special Trustee to the Office of Navajo-Hopi Indian Relocation.  |
| <b><u>O'Halleran (AZ)</u></b>  | <b><u>#27</u></b>  | Prohibits changes to Public Land Order 7787 using funds appropriated in this act.  |
| <b><u>Pallone (NJ)</u></b>   | <b><u>#7</u></b>   | States that none of the funds made available by this   |

<b><u>Wasserman</u></b>		Act may be used to research, investigate, or study
<b><u>Schultz (FL)</u></b>		offshore drilling or conduct a lease sale for the
<b><u>Sarbanes (MD)</u></b>		development or production of oil and gas in any area
<b><u>Moulton (MA)</u></b>		located in the North Atlantic, South Atlantic, or Straits
<b><u>Beyer (VA)</u></b>		of Florida Outer Continental Shelf Planning Area.
<b><u>McEachin (VA)</u></b>		
<b><u>Palmer (AL)</u></b>	<b><u>#64</u></b>	Ensures that none of the funds made available by this Act may be used for the Environmental Protection Agency's Criminal Enforcement Division.
<b><u>Palmer (AL)</u></b>	<b><u>#65</u></b>	Eliminates funding for Diesel Emission Reduction Grants and sends the savings to the spending reduction account.
<b><u>Pearce (NM)</u></b>	<b><u>#117</u></b>	Prevents funds from being used to treat the New Mexico Meadow Jumping Mouse as an endangered species.
<b><u>Pearce (NM)</u></b>	<b><u>#118</u></b>	Prevents funds from being used to carry out any rule-making on the status of the Lesser Prairie Chicken
<b><u>Marshall (KS)</u></b>		
<b><u>Perry (PA)</u></b>	<b><u>#148</u></b>	<b>LATE</b> Prohibits the use of funds for any federal advisory committee of the EPA that is not in compliance with the directive entitled "Strengthening and Improving Membership on EPA Federal Advisory Committees" published by the EPA on October 31, 2017.
<b><u>Perry (PA)</u></b>	<b><u>#149</u></b>	<b>LATE</b> Prohibits the EPA from using funds to give formal notification under, or prepare, propose, implement, administer, or enforce any rule or recommendation pursuant to, section 115 of the Clean Air Act.
<b><u>Peters, Scott (CA)</u></b>	<b><u>#83</u></b>	Prohibits funds from being used to hinder, suppress, or block any report required by statute related to climate change and would prohibit funds from being used to suppress communications to the public, or any Congressional entity, regarding science related to climate change.
<b><u>Smith, Adam (WA)</u></b>		
<b><u>Delaney (MD)</u></b>		
<b><u>Peterson (MN)</u></b>	<b><u>#63</u></b>	Requires the Department of Interior to conduct a study on best drainage water management practices on publicly-owned lands and wetlands to reduce the risk of flooding.
<b><u>Pingree (ME)</u></b>	<b><u>#115</u></b>	<b>REVISED</b> Requires that Department of the Interior

funds in the bill shall be available for obligation not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

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| <b><u>Plaskett, (VI)</u></b>   | <b><u>#69</u></b>  | Strengthens necessary support for insular territories of the United States (to equal Senate levels).  |
| <b><u>Poe (TX)</u></b>   | <b><u>#131</u></b> | <b>LATE</b> Reduces by \$20,000,000 and then increases by the same amount the National Recreation and Preservation account with intent to use the funds for the National Maritime Heritage grant program. |
| <b><u>Polis (CO)</u></b>   | <b><u>#107</u></b> | Increases funds for hazardous fuels management activities by \$10 million, decreases funds provided for forest products by the same amount.   |
| <b><u>Polis (CO), Ruiz (CA)</u></b>  | <b><u>#108</u></b> | Increases state and forestry private account by \$2 million to add funding for Volunteer Fire Assistance grant program, and decreases Wildland Fire Management account by the same amount.                |
| <b><u>Price, David (NC),<br/>Barragán, (CA),<br/>Crist (FL),<br/>Buchanan (FL),<br/>Rooney, Francis (FL)</u></b> | <b><u>#80</u></b>  | No funds may be used to make changes to the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement well control rule and production safety systems rule.  |
| <b><u>Quigley (IL),<br/>Connolly (VA),<br/>Pingree (ME)</u></b>  | <b><u>#137</u></b> | <b>LATE</b> Requires the EPA Administrator and Deputy Administrator to publicly disclose all travel costs paid by EPA within 10 days of travel.   |
| <b><u>Rice, Kathleen (NY)</u></b>  | <b><u>#152</u></b> | <b>LATE</b> Prohibits funds to the Fish and Wildlife Service for issuing permits for importing elephant trophies.   |
| <b><u>Rosen (NV)</u></b>   | <b><u>#43</u></b>  | Ensures that no funds are used to create a net loss of access to recreational hunting or fishing on public lands.   |
| <b><u>Rosen (NV)</u></b>   | <b><u>#44</u></b>  | Prohibits the use of funds to change the designations of Gold Butte National Monument and Basin and Range National Monument as national monuments.  |
| <b><u>Ruiz (CA), Cook (CA)</u></b>   | <b><u>#81</u></b>  | States that no funding made available by this act shall be used to divert water being conveyed from the San Bernardino National Forest to the city of Banning, California.                                |
| <b><u>Sanford (SC)</u></b>   | <b><u>#23</u></b>  | Prohibits funds to conduct offshore drilling and seismic testing.   |

<b><u>Sewell (AL)</u></b>	<b><u>#89</u></b>	Increases funding for competitive grants to preserve the sites and stories of the Civil Rights Movement by \$2,500,000, and reduces departmental operations for the Office of the Secretary of Interior by the same amount.
<b><u>Smith, Jason (MO), Gianforte (MT)</u></b>	<b><u>#3</u></b>	Prevents the payment of attorney's fees as part of any settlement the Federal Government enters into under the Clean Air Act, the Clean Water Act, and the Endangered Species Act.
<b><u>Smith, Jason (MO)</u></b>	<b><u>#127</u></b>	<b>LATE</b> Prevents funds from being used to designate critical habitat on private land under the Endangered Species Act.
<b><u>Soto (FL)</u></b>	<b><u>#72</u></b>	Increases funding for the National Estuary Program by \$468,000.
<b><u>Soto (FL)</u></b>	<b><u>#79</u></b>	Prohibits the Secretary of the Interior from acting in contradiction of section 104(a) of the Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act of 2006.
<b><u>Soto (FL)</u></b>	<b><u>#84</u></b>	Increases funding for the National Wildlife Refuge System by \$500,000 for the Wildlife and Habitat Management of invasive species.
<b><u>Soto (FL)</u></b>	<b><u>#85</u></b>	Prohibits the removal of the Florida Panther from the endangered species list.
<b><u>Taylor (VA)</u></b>	<b><u>#73</u></b>	States no funds may be used to conduct a lease sale for oil and gas production or development in any area within the North Atlantic or Mid Atlantic Planning area.
<b><u>Taylor (VA)</u></b>	<b><u>#74</u></b>	States no funds may be used to conduct a lease sale for oil and gas production or development in any area within the offshore administrative boundaries of the State of Virginia.
<b><u>Thompson, Glenn (PA)</u></b>	<b><u>#136</u></b>	<b>LATE</b> Restores funding for the Abandoned Mine Land Reclamation pilot program by \$25,000,000 while reducing EPA's Environmental Programs and Management by the same amount.
<b><u>Tonko (NY), Curbelo (FL), Costello (PA), Johnson, Eddie Bernice (TX),</u></b>	<b><u>#38</u></b>	Prohibits funding to be used to finalize, implement, administer, or enforce EPA's Strengthening Transparency in Regulatory Science proposed rule.

**Price, David (NC)**

**Vargas (CA),** #59 Increases funding for the U.S.-Mexico Border Water  
**Davis, Susan (CA),** Infrastructure Program by \$5 million.

**Peters, Scott (CA)**

**Wasserman** #8 Restricts funding from being used to conduct an oil  
**Schultz (FL)** and gas lease sale on the Outer Continental Shelf in the Mid-Atlantic, South Atlantic, Straits of Florida, or Eastern Gulf of Mexico planning area, as such planning areas are depicted in the leasing program prepared under section 18 of the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (43 U.S.C. 1344), entitled the “2017–2022 Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Proposed Final Program.”

**Welch (VT)** #119 Prohibits the EPA from issuing Renewable Volume Obligations under the Renewable Fuel Standard that will worsen environmental outcomes as reported in the Second Triennial Report to Congress.

**Welch (VT)** #120 Prohibits EPA from using any funds to issue Small Refinery Waivers under the Renewable Fuel Standard without making public, through press release and publishing on the EPA’s website, the following information: name of company granted a waiver; reason for the waiver; number of gallons covered by the waiver; and, the impact of the waiver on overall RVO for the year.

**Welch (VT)** #122 Increases and decreases the State and Private Forestry Account account by \$5 million to indicate that the amount should be used to help mitigate the spread of and the Emerald Ash Borer.

**Welch (VT),** #123 Increases funding for the Lake Champlain Basin  
**Stefanik (NY)** Program by \$4 million to the FY18 enacted level. Decreases the Office of the Secretary of Interior account by the same amount.

**Welch (VT)** #141 **LATE** Prohibits the EPA from developing, implementing, or enforcing new regulations altering the Reid vapor pressure limitations of section 211(h) of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7545(h)).”

**Young, Don (AK)** #10 Prevents funds from being used to change existing placer mining plan of operations with regard to reclamation activities.

**Young, Don (AK)** [#11](#) Exempts National Forests in Alaska from the Roadless Rule.

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**From:** Fitzella, James

**Sent:** Wednesday, July 11, 2018 6:09 PM

**To:** Fitzella, James <[James.Fitzella@mail.house.gov](mailto:James.Fitzella@mail.house.gov)>

**Subject:** Division B (FSGG) of H.R. 6147 - Summary of Amendments Submitted v3

**Please see new LATE amendments Kilmer #65 – McHenry #76.**

**REVISED: Palmer #39 and #40, Comstock #56, Kilmer #65**

**WITHDRAWN: Meadows #23 and #24, Peters #46**

**Summary of Amendments Submitted to the Rules Committee for  
Division B of H.R. 6147 - Financial Services and General Government  
Appropriations Act, 2019**

(summaries derived from information provided by sponsors)

Listed in Alphabetical Order

Jul 11, 2018 6:06PM

***Click on sponsor for amendment text.***

**Aguilar (CA)** [#16](#) Specifies that individuals covered by the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program are eligible for federal government employment.

**Bordallo (GU)** [#14](#) Provides appropriations for the Guam War Claims program for the victims of the occupation of Guam during World War II.

**Brooks (AL),  
Duncan (SC), Biggs  
(AZ), Gosar (AZ)** [#60](#) Prohibits funds appropriated under this act from being made available to any state or local government that is designated a Sanctuary jurisdiction through noncompliance of Section 642 of the Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 (8 U.S.C. 1373).

**Budd (NC)** [#66](#) **LATE** Instructs the Secretary of the Treasury to issue regulations to make the ruling of the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network titled “Beneficial Ownership Requirements for Legal Entity Customers of Certain Financial Products and Services with Automatic

Rollovers or Renewals” (FIN-2018-R002) permanent.

- Budd (NC)** #67 **LATE** Prohibits funds from being used to implement the regulation titled “Accounting Standards Update No. 2016-13, titled Financial Instruments—Credit Losses.”
- Capuano (MA)** #35 Strikes Section 628 which prohibits the SEC from promulgating a political spending disclosure rule.
- Carbajal (CA)** #64 Strikes Section 125, which prevents the IRS from issuing guidance to more clearly define political activity for 501(c)(4) organizations.
- Cohen (TN)** #36 Prohibits the use of funds to enter into any new contract, grant, or cooperative agreement with any Trump related business listed in the President Trump’s Annual Financial Disclosure Report submitted to the Office of Government Ethics as well as certain Trump related properties listed on the Trump Organization’s website. The specific properties are listed in the amendment.
- Cohen (TN)** #37 Prohibits the use of funds to enter into any new contract, grant, or cooperative agreement with any Trump related business listed in the President Trump’s Annual Financial Disclosure Report submitted to the Office of Government Ethics. The specific properties are listed in the amendment.
- Comstock (VA)** #56 **REVISED** Provides resources to assist communities in the fight against widespread drug trafficking through the High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area program.
- DeSantis (FL)** #41 Prevents the funds made available by this Act from being used by the FTC to implement activities substantially similar to the FDIC's "Operation Choke Point."
- DeSaulnier (CA)** #10 Provides that no such funds for the Executive Office of the President may be spent at any properties or businesses owned by or affiliated with President Trump and his family
- DeSaulnier (CA),  
Lee, Barbara (CA)** #47 Ensures no such funds may be used for the consolidation or closure of any post office in a historic building.
- Duncan (SC),** #38 Prevents funds from going to local governments that

<b><u>Brooks (AL), Biggs (AZ)</u></b>		permit individuals who are not citizens of the United States to vote in elections for state or local office.
<b><u>Emmer (MN)</u></b>	<b><u>#75</u></b>	<b>LATE</b> Prohibits funds from being used to require a tax-exempt organization to disclose the name, address, or other personal identifying information of a contributor.
<b><u>Gallego (AZ)</u></b>	<b><u>#68</u></b>	<b>LATE</b> Ensures none of the funds made available by this Act may be used by the Internal Revenue Service to alter or destroy personal or corporate tax returns, including accompanying schedules and documents, filed by the President of the United States
<b><u>Gianforte (MT)</u></b>	<b><u>#63</u></b>	Prohibits the collection of small debts for oil spill clean up from counties who have not received proper direction from the treasury, or prompt response from the Justice Department.
<b><u>Graves, Garret (LA), Kennedy (MA)</u></b>	<b><u>#34</u></b>	Provides that funds may be made available for the development of a uniform electronic release form and authentication system.
<b><u>Heck, Denny (WA), Blumenauer (OR), Lee, Barbara (CA), Perlmutter (CO), Polis (CO), Titus (NV), Young, Don (AK), Rosen (NV), Lewis, Jason (MN), Gaetz (FL), Rohrabacher (CA), McClintock (CA), Huffman (CA), Pingree (ME), McCollum (MN), Gabbard (HI), Norton (DC)</u></b>	<b><u>#45</u></b>	Prohibits funds from being used to penalize a financial institution for serving a legitimate marijuana business.
<b><u>Jackson Lee (TX)</u></b>	<b><u>#74</u></b>	<b>LATE</b> Prohibits funds to be used to house migrant children who have been involuntarily separated from family members or responsible adults.
<b><u>Kilmer (WA)</u></b>	<b><u>#65</u></b>	<b>LATE REVISED</b> Enhances transparency and accountability for online political advertisements by requiring those who purchase and publish such ads

to disclose information about the advertisements to the public.

- Krishnamoorthi (IL)** #18 Ensures level funding to the Community Development Financial Institutions Fund, which provide loans, investments, financial services, and technical assistance to underserved communities.
- Krishnamoorthi (IL)** #19 Strikes language that bars the SEC from using any funds to issue a rule, regulation, or order regarding the disclosure of political contributions, contributions to tax exempt organizations, or dues paid to trade associations.
- Krishnamoorthi (IL)** #20 Requires the IRS to include "recent changes to the federal tax law" as a part of its employee ethics training program.
- Kustoff (TN)** #54 Increases funding to the High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas program by \$10 million and reduces the General Services Administration's rental of space allocation by \$10 million.
- Larson, John (CT), Courtney (CT)** #58 Provides funding within the Department of the Treasury, Departmental Office (\$100,000 from the proposed \$208,751,000) towards a study, led by Treasury with the participation of relevant regulators, to examine the financial impact of the mineral pyrrhotite in concrete home foundations. The study should provide recommendations on regulatory and legislative actions needed to help mitigate impact on banks, mortgage lenders, tax revenues, and homeowners.
- Larson, John (CT), Courtney (CT)** #61 Provides funding to the Internal Revenue Service for taxpayer services (\$20,000,000) to assist taxpayers generally and those taking a casualty loss deduction with the guidance of Revenue Procedures 2017-60 and 2018-14.
- Larson, John (CT), Courtney (CT)** #62 Provides funding to the Internal Revenue Service for taxpayer services (\$100,000) to assist taxpayers taking a casualty loss deduction with the guidance of Revenue Procedures 2017-60 and 2018-14.
- Lawrence (MI)** #28 Prevents the Treasury's Postal Task Force from using funds to promote postal service privatization.

<b><u>Lawrence (MI)</u></b>	<b>#29</b>	Provides that any Task Force of which OMB is a member must respond to Congressional oversight inquiries.
<b><u>Lawrence (MI)</u></b>	<b>#30</b>	Requires OMB to notify Congress of federal workforce reductions under its Government-wide Reform Plan.
<b><u>Lawrence (MI)</u></b>	<b>#31</b>	Prevents OMB from using funds for regulations that exclude indirect benefits from cost-benefit analyses.
<b><u>Lewis, John (GA)</u></b>	<b>#48</b>	Strikes section 112 of Division B and restores the integrity and intent of the Johnson Amendment.
<b><u>Lieu (CA), Gallego (AZ), Welch (VT)</u></b>	<b>#26</b>	Provides that none of the funds made available in this Division may be used to make a payment to or reimburse expenses incurred at Trump Organization properties.
<b><u>Lowenthal (CA)</u></b>	<b>#70</b>	<b>LATE</b> Ensures none of the funds made available by this Act may be used by the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau to repeal or modify 12 CFR 1041 adopted in 2017 to curb unfair and abusive practices of certain lenders to make covered short-term or longer-term balloon-payment loans, including payday and vehicle title loans.
<b><u>Lowey (NY)</u></b>	<b>#7</b>	Removes the prohibition on qualified multi-state health insurance plans from covering a full range of reproductive health services.
<b><u>Lujan Grisham (NM)</u></b>	<b>#12</b>	Increases funding for Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFIs) by \$5 million. Decreases the General Services Administration Federal Buildings Fund by \$5 million.
<b><u>Lynch (MA)</u></b>	<b>#71</b>	<b>REVISED</b> Increases funding for the Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board by \$3 Million.
<b><u>Maloney, Carolyn (NY), Delaney (MD), Young, Don (AK), Hanabusa (HI)</u></b>	<b>#44</b>	Increases funding for the Community Development Financial Institutions Fund Program Account by \$34 million with an offset.
<b><u>McHenry (NC)</u></b>	<b>#76</b>	<b>LATE</b> Prohibits any taxpayer funds from going to support the Post Service's efforts to (1) expand or enhance financial services products, or (2) carry out any pilot programs or task forces created between

the union and the Post Service involving financial products or services.

- Meadows (NC)** #23 **WITHDRAWN** Prohibits Federal Funds from being used by the District of Columbia to impose an individual health insurance mandate in the nation's capital.
- Meadows (NC)** #24 **WITHDRAWN** Prohibits Federal Funds from being used by the District of Columbia to carry out Initiative 77, which would abolish the tipped minimum wage for restaurant servers.
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- Moore, Gwen (WI)** #17 Increases CDFI funding by \$30 million.
- Moore, Gwen (WI)** #72 **LATE** Blocks funding for any efforts to interfere with adequately funding the National Housing Trust Fund.
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- Murphy, Stephanie (FL)** #59 Reduces funding for Small Business Administration, Entrepreneurial Development Programs by \$1 million, and increases it by the same amount, with \$600,000 of the increase intended for the Women's Business Centers program and \$400,000 intended for Veterans Outreach programs.
- Norman (SC)** #42 Reduces the Presidential Allowance amount by

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- |  |                            |   |
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| <u><a href="#">Norton (DC), Lee, Barbara (CA)</a></u>                                    | <u><a href="#">#2</a></u>  | Permits the District of Columbia to spend its local funds on abortion services.   |
| <u><a href="#">Norton (DC), Blumenauer (OR), DeSaulnier (CA)</a></u>                     | <u><a href="#">#3</a></u>  | Strikes the repeal of the District of Columbia's Death with Dignity Act of 2016, and permits the District to spend its local funds to enact laws or regulations related to medical aid in dying.  |
| <u><a href="#">Norton (DC), Ryan, Tim (OH), Lee, Barbara (CA)</a></u>                    | <u><a href="#">#4</a></u>  | Permits the District of Columbia to spend its local funds to carry out its Reproductive Health Non-Discrimination Amendment Act of 2014.  |
| <u><a href="#">Norton (DC), Connolly (VA), Raskin (MD)</a></u>                           | <u><a href="#">#5</a></u>  | Extends the availability of identity protection coverage to individuals whose personally identifiable information was compromised during recent data breaches at Federal agencies.                |
| <u><a href="#">Norton (DC)</a></u>   | <u><a href="#">#6</a></u>  | Strikes the repeal of the District of Columbia's Local Budget Autonomy Amendment Act of 2012.   |
| <u><a href="#">Palazzo (MS)</a></u>  | <u><a href="#">#15</a></u> | Designates a 25m increase to CDFI programs.   |
| <u><a href="#">Palmer (AL), Sanford (SC), Meadows (NC)</a></u>                           | <u><a href="#">#39</a></u> | <b>REVISED</b> Prohibits funds from being used to carry out the District of Columbia's Minimum Wage Amendment Act of 2017, also known as Initiative 77.   |
| <u><a href="#">Palmer (AL), Walker (NC), Meadows (NC)</a></u>                            | <u><a href="#">#40</a></u> | <b>REVISED</b> Prohibits funds from being used to carry out the District of Columbia's Health Insurance Requirement Amendment Act of 2018.  |
| <u><a href="#">Peters, Scott (CA)</a></u>  | <u><a href="#">#46</a></u> | <b>WITHDRAWN</b> Prohibits funds from being used to implement Executive Orders 13836, 13837, 13839, relating to federal workers.  |
| <u><a href="#">Polis (CO)</a></u>  | <u><a href="#">#73</a></u> | <b>LATE</b> Provides funding for the SBA to do technical assistance, training and education about the 7(a)(15) employee-ownership loan guarantee program.   |
| <u><a href="#">Rosen (NV), Yoho (FL)</a></u>   | <u><a href="#">#27</a></u> | Prohibits the use of funds for a government contribution for the retirement benefits of any Member of Congress who has been convicted of a felony under the laws of a State or the United States. |
| <u><a href="#">Rothfus (PA)</a></u>  | <u><a href="#">#69</a></u> | <b>LATE</b> Prohibits the funds from being used to seize  |

property as a means of enforcing the liability provisions of the District of Columbia individual mandate.

**Scott, Bobby (VA), #55**  
**Cummings (MD),**  
**Cicilline (RI)** Prohibits the use of funds by the Office of Personnel Management or any other executive branch agency for the development, promulgation, modification, or implementation of any rule which would remove administrative law judges from the competitive service or place such administrative law judges in the excepted service.

**Serrano (NY), #43**  
**Price, David (NC),**  
**Welch (VT)** Revokes the FCC's 2018 rules relating to "Restoring Internet Freedom." Restores the FCC's 2015 rules on Net Neutrality and prevents the FCC from from repealing, revoking, amending, or otherwise modifying those rules.

**Sewell (AL) #57** Increases funding for Judiciary Capital Security under the Repairs and Alterations account of the Federal Building Fund by \$8,500,000.

**Soto (FL) #49** Allows individuals authorized to be employed in the United States pursuant to the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals Program to be eligible for paid employment with the U.S. House of Representatives or the U.S. Senate.

**Soto (FL) #50** Allows individuals authorized to be employed in the United States pursuant to the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals Program to be eligible for paid employment with the federal government.

**Soto (FL) #51** Increases funding for Tax Counseling for the Elderly by \$1 million.

**Soto (FL) #52** Increases funding for the Department of Treasury's Cybersecurity Enhancement Account by \$500,000 to further strengthen cybersecurity at Treasury and the nation's financial infrastructure.

**Soto (FL) #53** Increases funding for the IRS's identify theft and refund fraud casework program by \$500,000.

**Wasserman #8**  
**Schultz (FL)** Strikes section 112, which would prohibit the use of funds for the IRS to make a determination that a church or association of churches is not exempt from taxation for participating in political campaigns or on

behalf of candidates for public office.

- Wasserman** #11 Prohibits funds from this or any other Act from being used to prevent a Member of Congress from entering, for the purpose of conducting oversight, any facility in the United States used for purposes of detaining or otherwise housing foreign national minors.
- Schultz (FL), Pocan (WI)**
- Waters (CA)** #13 Strikes financial services-related policy riders (section 133, section 628, and title IX of division B).
- Young, Don (AK), Moore, Gwen (WI), Hanabusa (HI), Gabbard (HI)** #9 Increases funding for the Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFI) Native American CDFI Assistance (NACA) Program by \$3 million.
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- Zeldin (NY), Reichert (WA), Fitzpatrick (PA), Stefanik (NY), Costello (PA), Smith, Christopher (NJ), Faso (NY)** #22 Reauthorizes the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)

**James Fitzella**  
***Professional Staff***

**House Committee on Rules**

H-312, the Capitol | Washington, DC 20515  
(202) 225-9191

**Summary of Amendments Submitted to the Rules Committee for  
Division B of H.R. 6147 - Financial Services and General Government  
Appropriations Act, 2019**

(summaries derived from information provided by sponsors)

Listed in Alphabetical Order

Jul 11, 2018 6:06PM

***Click on sponsor for amendment text.***

- |   |     |   |
|---|-----|---|
| <b>Aguilar (CA)</b>   | #16 | Specifies that individuals covered by the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program are eligible for federal government employment.  |
| <b>Bordallo (GU)</b>  | #14 | Provides appropriations for the Guam War Claims program for the victims of the occupation of Guam during World War II.  |
| <b>Brooks (AL),<br/>Duncan (SC),<br/>Biggs (AZ), Gosar<br/>(AZ)</b> | #60 | Prohibits funds appropriated under this act from being made available to any state or local government that is designated a Sanctuary jurisdiction through noncompliance of Section 642 of the Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 (8 U.S.C. 1373).   |
| <b>Budd (NC)</b>  | #66 | <b>LATE</b> Instructs the Secretary of the Treasury to issue regulations to make the ruling of the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network titled “Beneficial Ownership Requirements for Legal Entity Customers of Certain Financial Products and Services with Automatic Rollovers or Renewals” (FIN-2018-R002) permanent.  |
| <b>Budd (NC)</b>  | #67 | <b>LATE</b> Prohibits funds from being used to implement the regulation titled “Accounting Standards Update No. 2016-13, titled Financial Instruments—Credit Losses.”   |
| <b>Capuano (MA)</b>   | #35 | Strikes Section 628 which prohibits the SEC from promulgating a political spending disclosure rule.   |
| <b>Carbajal (CA)</b>  | #64 | Strikes Section 125, which prevents the IRS from issuing guidance to more clearly define political activity for 501(c)(4) organizations.  |
| <b>Cohen (TN)</b>   | #36 | Prohibits the use of funds to enter into any new contract, grant, or cooperative agreement with any Trump related business listed in the President Trump’s Annual Financial Disclosure Report submitted to the Office of Government Ethics as well as certain Trump related properties listed on the Trump Organization’s website. The specific properties are listed in the amendment. |

- Cohen (TN)** #37 Prohibits the use of funds to enter into any new contract, grant, or cooperative agreement with any Trump related business listed in the President Trump's Annual Financial Disclosure Report submitted to the Office of Government Ethics. The specific properties are listed in the amendment.
- Comstock (VA)** #56 **REVISED** Provides resources to assist communities in the fight against widespread drug trafficking through the High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area program.
- DeSantis (FL)** #41 Prevents the funds made available by this Act from being used by the FTC to implement activities substantially similar to the FDIC's "Operation Choke Point."
- DeSaulnier (CA)** #10 Provides that no such funds for the Executive Office of the President may be spent at any properties or businesses owned by or affiliated with President Trump and his family
- DeSaulnier (CA), Lee, Barbara (CA)** #47 Ensures no such funds may be used for the consolidation or closure of any post office in a historic building.
- Duncan (SC), Brooks (AL), Biggs (AZ)** #38 Prevents funds from going to local governments that permit individuals who are not citizens of the United States to vote in elections for state or local office.
- Emmer (MN)** #75 **LATE** Prohibits funds from being used to require a tax-exempt organization to disclose the name, address, or other personal identifying information of a contributor.
- Gallego (AZ)** #68 **LATE** Ensures none of the funds made available by this Act may be used by the Internal Revenue Service to alter or destroy personal or corporate tax returns, including accompanying schedules and documents, filed by the President of the United States
- Gianforte (MT)** #63 Prohibits the collection of small debts for oil spill clean up from counties who have not received proper direction from the treasury, or prompt response from the Justice Department.
- Graves, Garret (LA), Kennedy (MA)** #34 Provides that funds may be made available for the development of a uniform electronic release form and authentication system.
- Heck, Denny (WA), Blumenauer (OR), Lee, Barbara (CA), Perlmutter (CO), Polis (CO), Titus (NV), Young, Don** #45 Prohibits funds from being used to penalize a financial institution for serving a legitimate marijuana business.

(AK), Rosen (NV),  
Lewis, Jason  
(MN), Gaetz (FL),  
Rohrabacher  
(CA), McClintock  
(CA), Huffman  
(CA), Pingree  
(ME), McCollum  
(MN), Gabbard  
(HI), Norton (DC)

- Jackson Lee (TX)** #74 **LATE** Prohibits funds to be used to house migrant children who have been involuntarily separated from family members or responsible adults.
- Kilmer (WA)** #65 **LATE REVISED** Enhances transparency and accountability for online political advertisements by requiring those who purchase and publish such ads to disclose information about the advertisements to the public.
- Krishnamoorthi (IL)** #18 Ensures level funding to the Community Development Financial Institutions Fund, which provide loans, investments, financial services, and technical assistance to underserved communities.
- Krishnamoorthi (IL)** #19 Strikes language that bars the SEC from using any funds to issue a rule, regulation, or order regarding the disclosure of political contributions, contributions to tax exempt organizations, or dues paid to trade associations.
- Krishnamoorthi (IL)** #20 Requires the IRS to include "recent changes to the federal tax law" as a part of its employee ethics training program.
- Kustoff (TN)** #54 Increases funding to the High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas program by \$10 million and reduces the General Services Administration's rental of space allocation by \$10 million.
- Larson, John (CT), Courtney (CT)** #58 Provides funding within the Department of the Treasury, Departmental Office (\$100,000 from the proposed \$208,751,000) towards a study, led by Treasury with the participation of relevant regulators, to examine the financial impact of the mineral pyrrhotite in concrete home foundations. The study should provide recommendations on regulatory and legislative actions needed to help mitigate impact on banks, mortgage lenders, tax revenues, and homeowners.
- Larson, John (CT), Courtney (CT)** #61 Provides funding to the Internal Revenue Service for taxpayer services (\$20,000,000) to assist taxpayers generally and those taking a casualty loss deduction with the guidance of Revenue Procedures 2017-60 and 2018-14.

<b>Larson, John (CT), Courtney (CT)</b>	#62	Provides funding to the Internal Revenue Service for taxpayer services (\$100,000) to assist taxpayers taking a casualty loss deduction with the guidance of Revenue Procedures 2017-60 and 2018-14.
<b>Lawrence (MI)</b>	#28	Prevents the Treasury's Postal Task Force from using funds to promote postal service privatization.
<b>Lawrence (MI)</b>	#29	Provides that any Task Force of which OMB is a member must respond to Congressional oversight inquiries.
<b>Lawrence (MI)</b>	#30	Requires OMB to notify Congress of federal workforce reductions under its Government-wide Reform Plan.
<b>Lawrence (MI)</b>	#31	Prevents OMB from using funds for regulations that exclude indirect benefits from cost-benefit analyses.
<b>Lewis, John (GA)</b>	#48	Strikes section 112 of Division B and restores the integrity and intent of the Johnson Amendment.
<b>Lieu (CA), Gallego (AZ), Welch (VT)</b>	#26	Provides that none of the funds made available in this Division may be used to make a payment to or reimburse expenses incurred at Trump Organization properties.
<b>Lowenthal (CA)</b>	#70	<b>LATE</b> Ensures none of the funds made available by this Act may be used by the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau to repeal or modify 12 CFR 1041 adopted in 2017 to curb unfair and abusive practices of certain lenders to make covered short-term or longer-term balloon-payment loans, including payday and vehicle title loans.
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- Zeldin (NY), DeLauro (CT), Rice, Kathleen** #21 Prohibits funds from being used by the GSA to market or sell Plum Island, NY.

**(NY), Courtney  
(CT), Suozzi  
(NY), Faso (NY)**

**Zeldin (NY),  
Reichert (WA),  
Fitzpatrick (PA),  
Stefanik (NY),  
Costello (PA),  
Smith,  
Christopher (NJ),  
Faso (NY)**

#22 Reauthorizes the Land and Water Conservation Fund  
(LWCF)

**From:** [Keisha Sedlacek](#)  
**To:** [Skipwith, Aurelia](#)  
**Cc:** [greg\\_j\\_sheehan@fws.gov](mailto:greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov); [stephen\\_guertin@fws.gov](mailto:stephen_guertin@fws.gov); [richard.goeken@soi.doi.gov](mailto:richard.goeken@soi.doi.gov); [ray\\_sauvajot@nps.gov](mailto:ray_sauvajot@nps.gov); [Tracie Letterman](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Meeting with HSLF- Thank you  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 10, 2018 3:33:24 PM  
**Attachments:** [9\\_5\\_17\\_Gov\\_Walker\\_to\\_Knowles\\_letter.pdf](#)  
[BLM Proposal 10-19 DOI FINAL.pdf](#)  
[DOI Priorities 4.8.18.pdf](#)  
[FY18 Interior Approps AK Rules Factsheet 8.31.17\\_final minus approps ask.pdf](#)  
[HSUS Press Release on Isle Royale FEIS 3.15.18.pdf](#)

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Aurelia,

Thank you for meeting with us yesterday to talk about our DOI priorities. Attached are the handouts we brought in. I didn't have everyone's emails from the meeting so please, pass these along to anyone I have forgotten. If you or your colleagues have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out.

With regards to Grand Canyon bison, we don't believe that anyone has filed a petition yet for bison and PZP. The project, like the Catalina Island one, would have to go forward under an experimental use permit.

On wild horses, we look forward to seeing your report to Congress and will make sure to send you over the economists report on our proposal as soon as we have it.

We look forward to working with you and your colleagues.

Best,

Keisha

Keisha Sedlacek  
Senior Regulatory Specialist, Federal Affairs  
Humane Society Legislative Fund  
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[Governor@Alaska.Gov](mailto:Governor@Alaska.Gov)

Governor Bill Walker  
STATE OF ALASKA

September 5, 2017

The Honorable Tony Knowles  
1146 S Street  
Anchorage, AK 99501

Dear Governor Knowles,

Thank you again for meeting with me and providing your constructive suggestions concerning Alaska's predator management program. I understand that you have also been in communication with Commissioner Cotten on these matters.

With regard to your first request, we will evaluate your suggestion that wolf, bear, and other predator harvests be eliminated in the vicinity of Denali National Park's northeast border. Please be assured that we will continue to explore meaningful, stable, and equitable solutions to this enduring issue.

We also appreciate your suggestions on ways to help ensure Alaska's predator management programs are scientifically sound and have the public's confidence. In addition to studies such as The Wildlife Society's relatively recent technical review of "Management of Large Mammalian Carnivores in North America" as applied in Alaska and beyond ([http://wildlife.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/05/TWS\\_TechReview\\_Management-Large-Mammalian-Carnivores\\_2012.pdf](http://wildlife.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/05/TWS_TechReview_Management-Large-Mammalian-Carnivores_2012.pdf)), and ADF&G's ongoing internal assessment of costs and efficacy of recent intensive management (IM) programs, the agency always welcomes external peer review. If you are able to help secure federal funding, we would support and fully cooperate with a 20-year follow-up to your previous review by the National Academy of Sciences (NAS).

As discussed, we envision that a new review could parallel the original review of the program, with emphasis on ensuring the program is science based. The new review would also cover the program's cost and sustainability relative to public opinion. In addition, we understand that you would like to include an evaluation of any effects IM programs may have on adjacent federal conservation units. Although we did not discuss the idea, we would also like the NAS to address the capability of ADF&G's Intensive Management Protocol ([http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/static-f/research/programs/intensivemanagement/pdfs/intensive\\_management\\_protocol.pdf](http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/static-f/research/programs/intensivemanagement/pdfs/intensive_management_protocol.pdf)). The protocol was developed and implemented several years ago to assure transparency in planning, determining feasibility, documenting decision points for implementation (triggers for continuing, adapting, suspending, or terminating programs), monitoring, expenditures, and reporting.

The Honorable Tony Knowles  
Wildlife Management  
September 5, 2017  
Page 2

Of course, the scope of an NAS review would ultimately be determined by an NAS steering committee. We would welcome your participation in that process.

I appreciate your willingness to share your perspective and experience as a former Governor and your constructive suggestions regarding these controversial issues. I invite you to continue to dialogue directly with Commissioner Cotten related to the details of these matters on my behalf as we work to determine the best course moving forward.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bill". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Bill Walker  
Governor

cc: The Honorable Sam Cotten, Commissioner, Alaska Department of Fish and Game

# 10 YEARS TO AML: A PROPOSAL FOR BLM'S WILD HORSE AND BURRO PROGRAM



2017

## Saving Money and Lives: the Way Forward for America's Wild Horses and Burros

The primary objective of this proposal is to develop an economically viable, humane, and feasible long-term management plan for wild horses and burros in the American West. This program has been mismanaged and it needs a reboot. While some of these aspects will continue to be controversial in equine and animal protection communities, we are committed to solutions to this significant crisis. We propose the following solutions for the short and long-term health of our wild horses and our western rangeland: (1) Bring horses into more cost-effective pasture facilities, (2) Contract with private parties to secure lower-cost leasing of land for long-term horse care, (3) Apply fertility control strategies to every herd that can be reached utilizing trained volunteers and Agency staff, and (4) Promote adoptions in order to reduce captive populations and costs. If the BLM can work with private partners to bring each of these goals to life, the agency will be back on a financially sustainable and more humane management track.

# Executive Summary

Wild horses and burros are “living symbols of the historic and pioneer spirit of the west,”<sup>1</sup> and an integral part of American cultural heritage. Management of these federally protected herds is no easy task, but one that Americans overwhelmingly support and that the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is required by law to perform. The BLM’s attempts to curb population growth, mainly through roundups and removals have not sufficiently slowed the growth of wild horse and burro populations on the range. Concerns about the cost of the Wild Horse and Burro Program have prompted some to recommend the use of inhumane and ultimately futile lethal population control methods. These methods are not only ineffective – on-range horses will continue to reproduce, locking the BLM into a cycle of annual mass killings– they are also expensive, unnecessary, and extremely unpopular.

We propose a solution that will release the BLM from the costly cycle of roundups and holdings, while reducing the number of horses on the range to a level closer to the agency determined appropriate management level (AML):

- Conduct targeted gathers and removals at densely populated Herd Management Areas (HMAs) to reduce herd size in the short term.
- Treat gathered horses with fertility control prior to being returned to the range. This program should continue until 90 percent of mares on the range have been treated and the implementation of continued consistent fertility control.
- Relocate horses in holding facilities, and those taken off the range, to large cost-effective pasture facilities funded through public-private partnerships.
- Promote adoptions in order to reduce captive populations and costs.

The four tiers of this approach – gathers and removals, fertility treatment, public-private partnerships, and adoptions – are crucial to the ultimate success of the program. Failure to effectively implement any part of this program jeopardizes the success of a holistic and sustainable wild horse and burro program. If employed correctly, this plan will result in a natural population decline over the next two decades. We collectively support this humane, effective, and financially sustainable approach.

Nearly all stakeholders share common goals for rangelands: ecosystem health, the humane treatment of animals, and fiscal responsibility. With this plan, horses will be managed humanely, the government’s costs will decrease over time, and public lands shared with other users will be managed closer to AML goals. We have an opportunity, and an obligation, to solve this challenge collectively through a rational, judicious plan that embodies each of these shared goals. Now is the time to act.

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<sup>1</sup> 1971 Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act, 16 U.S.C. §1331.

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# 10 Years to AML: A proposal for BLM's Wild Horse and Burro Program

## SAVING MONEY AND LIVES: THE WAY FORWARD FOR AMERICA'S WILD HORSES AND BURROS

### THE PROBLEM

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*The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has been unable to create an effective, financially sustainable framework to manage wild horses and burros, now some 40 years after the enactment of the Wild and Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act. The agency has not taken advantage of the range of tools it's had at its disposal, and relied too narrowly on the unsustainable process of gathers and removals. That has created a circumstance where horses are reproducing on the range at maximum rates; this has saddled the agency with enormous animal care responsibilities at short-term and long-term holding facilities.*

- Until recently, when budget constraints prevented nearly all management of wild horses on the range, the BLM controlled populations by rounding up specific herds every 2–4 years and removing large numbers of animals to attain AMLs. These removals resulted in a large population of horses under the BLM's direct care. The BLM developed two types of holding facilities to maintain these horses — contracted pastures that cost \$1.82–\$2.42 per horse per day, and short-term corral facilities (i.e. feedlots) that cost \$4–\$7 per horse per day. This excludes costs for round-ups. The BLM currently maintains 32,146 wild horses in large pasture facilities, and 11,902 horses in corral facilities. Corral facilities are a less humane, more expensive form of holding.
- According to the National Academy of Sciences, removal of excess horses can actually facilitate a higher growth rate in wild herds due to decreased competition for forage. This means that the BLM's current management techniques are likely increasing population growth rates. Equine herds typically grow approximately 15%–20% per year, but studies have shown that growth rates are higher in herds where removals have been conducted.<sup>2</sup>
- Had the BLM coupled these removals with a sufficient on-range fertility control program, recruitment rates would be far lower. Between 2012 and 2016, the BLM treated fewer than 3,000 horses with fertility control, and released many gathered horses back onto the range without fertility control treatment. (See addendum).

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<sup>2</sup> National Research Council of the National Academies of Sciences. 2013. "Using Science to Improve the BLM Wild Horse and Burro Program: A Way Forward." Page 6. ("NAS").

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- The BLM currently estimates the population of wild horses and burros on federal lands at over 72,674 — almost three times greater than the agency’s nationwide AML goal of 26,715.<sup>3</sup>
- The failure of this management strategy has prompted some to suggest using lethal techniques, such as killing healthy wild horses and burros or selling them for the purpose of commercial slaughter. However, this will not solve the problem because removals for any purpose, whether for placement into holding facilities or to be killed, will simply perpetuate a longstanding problem as lethal management will not fix the population growth rates on the range. Additionally, there are substantial ongoing costs and regulatory issues associated with removing, killing, and disposing of horses, which means this method locks the government into an ongoing financial commitment to continue removing and killing horses.
- Mismanagement has led to negative impacts to the long-term health of rangeland ecosystems,<sup>4</sup> raising serious concerns with maintaining the status quo management practices for both private livestock grazing and wild horses and burros. Controversy over the allocation of water and forage has polarized stakeholders, compromising our ability to find common ground solutions.

## THE SOLUTION

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*While there is continuing debate about what constitutes sustainable wild horse and burro populations on the range, the BLM is under pressure to maintain populations at currently established national AML. Those levels can only be reached by large-scale live removals and fertility control. Removals should only be conducted under the following conditions: (1) Removals must focus on those areas of most immediate concern due to potential conflicts with native wildlife, rangeland degradation, and human-horse conflict; (2) fertility control must be implemented wherever feasible; (3) horses removed from the range must be relocated into less expensive holding facilities, and where possible, public-private partnerships with landowners and non-profits must be pursued; and (4) better marketing can increase adoptions and reduce captive populations and costs.*

### I. REMOVALS

Assuming an 18% population growth rate absent removals, rangeland populations will exceed 84,000 by 2019. While removals to achieve AML are a financial burden, the BLM has determined that they should be conducted to alleviate existing concerns with the condition of BLM’s rangelands. To reach the BLM’s assigned nationwide AML, the BLM should implement a plan to round-up and remove 50,000 horses — a number that would significantly reduce the population burden on rangelands while fertility control tools are simultaneously implemented to stabilize populations on the range. Below are two removal scenarios that the BLM may pursue, depending on resources and pasture facility availability.

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<sup>3</sup> Two key findings of the NAS Report should be noted here: (1) “...the statistics on the national population size cannot be considered scientifically rigorous,” and (2) “How AML’s are established, monitored, and adjusted is not transparent to stakeholders, supported by scientific information, or amendable to adaptation with new information and environmental and social change. Ibid, pg 3 and pg 12.

<sup>4</sup> The recent GAO report noted that no studies have been conducted separating out the impacts to rangelands from wild horses and cattle, US Government Accountability Office Report, Animal Welfare: 2017 “Information on the US Horse.” Page 32.

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### **Option 1: Potential Three Year Removal Goals**

2019 : 20,000 horses removed from the range  
2020 : 20,000 horses removed from the range  
2021 : 10,000 horses removed from the range

### **Option 2: Potential Five Year Removal Goals**

2019 : 10,000 horses removed from the range  
2020 : 10,000 horses removed from the range  
2021 : 10,000 horses removed from the range  
2022 : 10,000 horses removed from the range\_  
2023 : 10,000 horses removed from the range

Some areas cause heightened concerns due to rangeland degradation, and direct political conflict with the BLM's multiple-use mandate. With that in mind, we suggest that the agency prioritize those areas for immediate attention.

The BLM could begin removals in 2019 focused on those areas, gradually shifting focus in subsequent years to removals in all HMAs where equid populations exceed the AML. At the end of 2021 or 2023, the combination of large-scale removals and the implementation of fertility control (as discussed below) would eliminate the necessity of future large-scale gathers for removal purposes. If necessary, smaller targeted gathers could be conducted to maintain population levels in strategic locations. Removed horses would be relocated to pasture facilities or contracted sanctuaries (as discussed below).

## II. FERTILITY CONTROL

*All future removals must be coordinated with ongoing, on-range fertility control programs to prevent subsequent population growth within the remaining equid population.*

We recommend a large-scale fertility control program which ensures that over 90% of the horses remaining on public lands are treated with fertility control, and are sufficiently retreated in later years in order to prevent the need for future large scale removals.

- To achieve this goal, the agency must regularly treat a significant portion (>90%) of the remaining mares in every HMA. For HMAs using helicopter gathers, the agency must commit to coupling the removal of the previously noted 50,000 horses with detailed gather plans that target a high percentage of the area's population. The agency must then treat all mares

returned to the range with PZP, and continue to treat mares in the HMA in successive years to ensure that a sufficient number of mares (>90%) remain treated.<sup>5</sup>

- In areas where baiting is possible, BLM staff must administer treatment through opportunistic darting. If that is not possible in all locations, gathers without removals in subsequent years must take place to ensure repeated treatments.
- Trained and approved volunteers and university programs can be utilized to aid with darting programs, herd identification, behavioral observation, and data collection as the BLM needs.
- Students and volunteer organizations can also be used to support water and habitat restoration on the range.
- The BLM should pursue further research into on-range fertility control, and incorporate results into long term management plans.

#### FERTILITY TREATMENT POPULATION PROJECTIONS:<sup>6</sup>

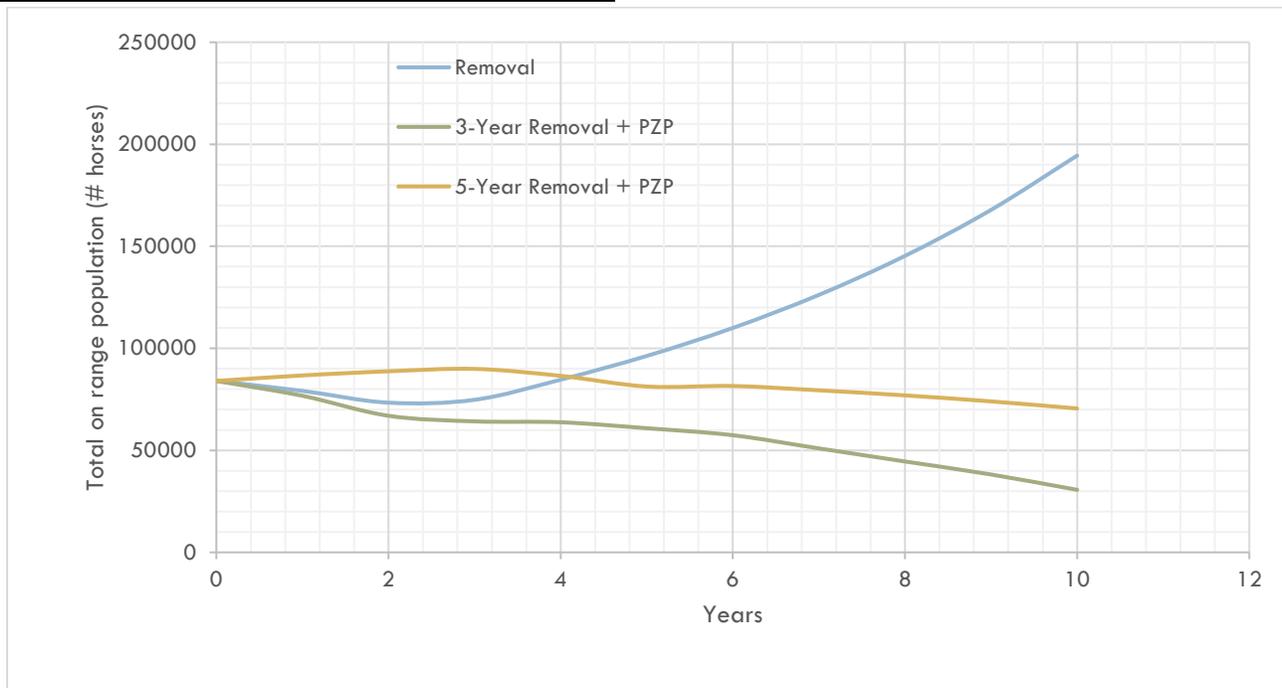


Figure 1. Population growth models demonstrate the differential effect of management strategies that incorporate both traditional round up practices and the application of PZP. In the Removal scenario, no application of PZP is administered. The 3-year treatment uses the same removal plan, but includes the application of PZP to horses through round-up and range application. The 5-year treatment has less aggressive removals over a longer period of time (10,000 a year for five years) combined with the application of PZP to horses through round-up and range application. A growth rate of 18% is assumed for wild populations. We computed a growth rate of -6% for PZP treated populations assuming 50% mare fraction, 56% foaling rate, 91% efficacy, and 8.5% mortality.

<sup>5</sup> The 2013 NAS report examines the efficacy of PZP through a variety of studies, concluding that the mean efficacy rate is 91.5%. Page 102.

<sup>6</sup> These scenarios are dependent on the BLM's capacity and resources to remove, treat, and house wild horses and burros. These figures are estimates subject to change based on a variety of factors.

- From this point, it will take approximately 10 years to get the population close to the BLM's current desired AML of 26,715 based solely on the use of Zonastat-H or another yearly contraceptive.
- Longer-lasting vaccines like PZP-22 will lower costs and reduce the need for yearly treatment, and the addition of safe and viable sterilization programs will increase the rate at which populations decline. As such, additional fertility control tools should be implemented as soon as they become feasible.

### III. LESS EXPENSIVE HOLDING OPTIONS

*Every day, the BLM spends \$1.82 per horse in long term holding pastures and an average of \$4.99 per horse in corral facilities.<sup>7</sup> A shortage of pasture facilities has forced the agency to use corral facilities for long term purposes —at more than twice the expense. The BLM currently holds 11,902 horses in corral facilities. The agency estimates that each of those horses costs approximately \$46,000 over the course of their lifetime. We propose that the BLM relocate corralled horses, along with any additional removed horses, to more cost-effective private pastures. Private pastures help reduce population levels in individual HMAs to enable proper management, reduce the agency's management costs, and provide humane living situations. It also ensures that lethal methods do not become the default public policy.*

*While this proposal requires an additional funding investment to achieve this shift in focus, it will result in long-term cost savings. We must identify adequately large pasture options that can accommodate not only the horses currently housed in corral facilities but also the approximately 50,000 more horses that may be removed from the range. The overarching goal is to ensure that future gathers will be conducted solely to administer a comprehensive, mandatory fertility-control program. The implementation of ongoing on-range fertility control will mean fewer horses removed, which will ultimately enable a phase-out of holding facilities. As holding facilities are phased out, BLM funds will become available to pay for continued fertility control treatment. Below are models that offer practical options for achieving this ultimate goal.*

#### Large-Scale Private Pasture or Sanctuary Facilities

- The American Mustang Foundation (AMF) proposes a tangible solution to the wild horse population problem by providing humane, long-term, off-range pasture for up to 50,000 wild

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<sup>7</sup> Department of Interior, September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

horses or burros. The BLM would retain ownership of these animals to ensure their federally protected status.

- This service will save tax money by decreasing the average per-horse cost of off-range management and contracting, compared to the current cost-prohibitive corral facilities. AMF will follow BLM intake protocol regarding sterilization and will maintain non-reproducing herds. AMF's proposal decreases the costs of transportation, gathering, and contracting, and allows the animals to live out their lives in natural pasture settings.
- Return to Freedom, a non-profit wild horse conservation organization, proposes that non-profit organizations, private landowners, or a combination of the two, provide placement options to relocate wild horses to sanctuary settings for the remainder of their lives. Non-Profit 501(c)(3) Organizations and partnering land owners may also enter into long term off range pasture with the BLM with the agency maintaining title of the animals to ensure their federally protected status.
- Qualified sanctuaries are an additional alternative, reducing the BLM's holding costs while providing removed horses a life-long safe refuge. Landowners may work in partnership with qualified sanctuaries.
- Private pasture and sanctuary facilities would be encouraged to provide programs to educate the public about the connection between managed wild horse populations and rangeland health.
- All facilities involved in the program will contractually agree that horses in their care will not be sent to slaughter, nor will healthy horses and burros be killed.

#### IV. ADOPTIONS

**Over the course of the past 5 years, the BLM has only been able to adopt between 2,000-3,000 wild horses and burros a year. Recognizing that this number is insufficient to lower populations in holding facilities in any meaningful way, if this plan is adopted our organizations will work together to create an adoption program to supplement the BLM's current adoption program that will aid in increasing the adoption of horses relocated into the above mentioned private facilities.**

- The Wild Horse and Burro Program plays a key role in reducing the number of animals on the range. However, adoption demand has declined in recent years.
  - If the agency adopts our proposal, our organizations are committed to helping increase wild horse and burro adoptions in partnership with the BLM. We will develop and implement a program to encourage the public to adopt a wild horse or burro through the implementation of educational training/mentoring programs with adoptable horses and a marketing plan, funded solely by our organizations, which will supplement the agency's current program.
  - We have determined that the largest possible target audience that is not being tapped by the BLM are potential horse owners on the East Coast. Our team will work to increase publicity across the country with a specific focus on the East Coast to aid in increasing adoption numbers.
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- We will use our volunteer network and extensive outreach capabilities to promote adoptable horses to potential adopters through the use of our social media and email channels.

## PRESIDENT'S BUDGET REQUEST

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*We understand that this program will require significant funding in its initial stage. However, without additional funding to the Wild Horse and Burro Program, the BLM will be unable to pursue any management plan that will alleviate the current crisis. If no action is taken, the cycle of removals and ever-increasing costs will continue unabated, or the agency will pursue mass killing programs that create an enormous and unsustainable public backlash. By granting this appropriations request, the agency will have a humane pathway forward. An up-front financial commitment will result in long-term economic and ecological gains as the BLM is able to balance rangeland populations, increase rangeland health, and cease costly holding facilities in the long term. This necessary and worthwhile investment will lead to extraordinary cost savings and a success story for the American public.*

### **RECOMMENDED LANGUAGE:**

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) shall use any reappropriated, or new additional funding to address population control and on-range management of wild horses and burros on public lands through combining contraception application with removal of excess horses and burros. If removals are necessary, BLM shall prioritize removal of horses within sensitive species habitat, on most heavily populated Herd Management Areas (HMA's), and horses living outside of HMA's. The BLM shall combine contraception methods with removals by ensuring a significant portion of remaining horses are treated and shall utilize cost savings contracts that enable management of a large volume of removed horses on private, contracted, pasture. The BLM is prohibited from utilizing this funding to kill healthy horses, sell without restriction, or otherwise enable wild horses or burros to be slaughtered for commercial or non-commercial purposes.

### Acknowledgements

The authors thank Dr. Steven Sadro<sup>1</sup> for technical assistance and for constructing the population modeling projections file. We also thank the BLM's wild horse and burro program officers and employees who have offered input and discussion in regards to wild horse populations and structuring collaborative projects with the Bureau.

1: Department of Environmental Science and Policy, University of California at Davis, 1023 Wickson Hall, One Shields Avenue, Davis, California, 95616 (email: [ssadro@ucdavis.edu](mailto:ssadro@ucdavis.edu)).

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Year	AML	Population of horses on range	Population of burros on range	Total population on range	Total population horses and burros in short term holding	Population of horses in long term holding	Budget allocation	# of horses on PZP-22 fertility control	PZP-22 total cost (\$2750/animal)	# horses on ZonaStat fertility control	ZonaStat total cost (\$500/animal)	Percentage budget allocation spent on fertility control	Number of horses and burros removed from the range
2007	27,492	25,689	2,874	28,563	9,595	19,722	36,354,000	113	310,750	20	10,000	0.88	7,726
2008	27,219	29,644	3,461	33,105	9,508	21,540	36,201,000	154	423,500	0	0	1.17	5,275
2009	26,578	33,102	3,838	36,940	9,422	22,217	40,613,000	582	1,600,500	0	0	3.94	6,417
2010	26,576	33,692	4,673	38,365	11,277	23,702	63,986,000	494	1,358,500	20	10,000	2.14	10,255
2011	26,576	33,014	5,483	38,497	11,940	28,649	75,753,000	878	2,414,500	183	91,500	3.31	8,877
2012	26,545	31,453	5,841	37,294	13,972	32,457	74,888,000	878	2,414,500	167	83,500	3.34	8,577
2013	26,677	33,780	6,825	40,605	15,999	33,688	71,836,000	310	852,500	199	99,500	1.33	4,176
2014	26,684	40,815	8,394	49,209	15,297	32,882	77,250,000	65	178,750	319	159,500	0.44	1,857
2015	26,715	47,329	10,821	58,150	16,444	31,101	77,245,000	183	503,250	286	143,000	0.84	3,819
2016	26,715	55,311	11,716	67,027	13,511	32,150	80,555,000	118	324,500	334	167,000	0.61	3,320
2017	26,715	59,483	13,191	72,674	13,234	32,781							

All data in this spreadsheet from the following sources:

National Wild Horse and Burro Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

National Academy of Sciences Report In Brief, *Using Science to Improve the BLM Wild Horse and Burro Program: A Way Forward* (2013)

<https://www.blm.gov/programs/wild-horse-and-burro/about-the-program/program-data>

Personal correspondence with Public Affairs officer for the WH&B Program

7/7/17

Compiled by [www.returntofreedom.org](http://www.returntofreedom.org)



## GREATER YELLOWSTONE ECOSYSTEM GRIZZLY BEARS



On June 30, 2017, the FWS issued a final rule removing grizzly bears in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem (GYE) from the list of threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. On December 7, 2017, the FWS solicited comments on the impacts of the D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals in the Western great lakes wolves case on the GYE grizzly bear delisting rule. Specifically, the FWS asked for comments on the court's decision that FWS had not evaluated the impacts of delisting a DPS on the remaining listing entity of grizzly bears and what impacts the effect of lost historical range may have on the status of the GYE grizzly bears. The FWS stated its conclusions would be published by March 31<sup>st</sup>.

**Ask: When will FWS be publishing its conclusion?**

## PROHIBITING CONTROVERSIAL HUNTING METHODS ON NATIONAL PRESERVES IN ALASKA

On October 23, 2015, the National Park Service (NPS) issued a rule that amended hunting and trapping regulations on National Preserves in Alaska. The NPS rule prohibits controversial and scientifically unjustified killing methods on more than 20 million acres of federal lands in Alaska, including luring grizzlies with pet food to get a point blank kill and killing wolf, black bear, and coyote mothers and their young at their dens. In accordance with a July 14, 2017 memorandum, the NPS is in the process of reviewing the rule before re-initiating rulemaking.



**Ask: NPS should not change the rule as (1) these practices run counter to the NPS's mandate to "conserve" the "natural objects" and wildlife "for the enjoyment of future generations", (2) wildlife watching in Alaska contributes far more to local economies than trophy hunting, (3) the purpose of the rule – kill native carnivore species to benefit prey species- is not supported by the best available science, and (4) the majority of Alaskans support the rule as-is.**

## GRAND CANYON BISON AND FERTILITY CONTROL



On September 6, 2017, the National Park Service announced its decision to reduce the bison herd from 400-600 animals to fewer than 200 in the next 3-5 years by a lethal cull utilizing volunteers and non-lethal capture and transfer to cooperating agencies and tribes. The HSUS has offered to assist in creating an alternative management plan, under the supervision of the federal agency, for a fertility control program that would halt population growth. A similar program is underway on Santa Catalina Island, off the coast of California, and fertility control has worked with remarkable efficiency.

**Ask: We urge DOI to adopt a fertility control program to stabilize and reduce population numbers of Bison in the Grand Canyon National Park in a humane way.**

## WILD HORSES- 10 YEARS TO APPROPRIATE MANAGEMENT LEVEL PROPOSAL

The HSUS, HSLF along with other three other organizations submitted a proposal to BLM in mid-October outlining a solution that will release the BLM from the costly cycle of roundups and holdings, while reducing the number of horses on the range to a level closer to the agency determined appropriate management level (AML). Specifically, the proposal calls for BLM to take a four-prong approach to managing wild horses and burros: (1) conduct targeted gather and removals of 50,000 wild horses, (2) treat gathered horses with fertility control prior to being returned to the range, (3) relocate horses in holding facilities, and those taken off the range, to large cost-effective pasture facilities funded through public-private partnerships, and (4) promote adoptions in order to reduce off-range populations and costs.



**Ask: We urge BLM to swiftly implement the "10 Years to AML: A Proposal for BLM's Wild Horse and Burro Program."**

## TROPHY HUNTING



Wildlife trophies of more than 1,200 different kinds of animals were imported between 2005 and 2014, including nearly 32,500 trophies of the Africa Big Five species: approximately 5,600 African lions, 4,600 African elephants, 4,500 African leopards, 330 southern white rhinos and 17,200 African buffalo. There is a plethora of science that shows that trophy hunting is unsustainable and is a threat to the survival of various species. Additionally, the economic benefits of trophy hunting are questionable and insignificant when compared to wildlife watching ventures.

**Ask: We urge DOI follow the best available science showing trophy hunting does not enhance the survival of the species and therefore, threatened and endangered species trophy imports should not be allowed.**

## Prohibiting Controversial Hunting Methods on National Preserves in Alaska

On October 23, 2015, the National Park Service (NPS) finalized a rule amending its regulations for sport hunting and trapping on National Preserves in Alaska (80 Fed. Reg. 64,325). These rules rightly prohibited controversial and scientifically unjustified killing methods on over 20 million acres of federal public lands in Alaska.



American taxpayers maintain the 20 million acres of federal lands in Alaska, and wildlife watchers outnumber hunters nearly five to one in the state. These cruel methods of hunting native carnivores are opposed by Alaskans, undermine tourism, and should be banned.



### The NPS's October 2015 rule ended cruel and unscientific killing methods.

- Killing of wolf and coyote pups and adults in early summer while at their dens
- Killing brown (grizzly) bears over bait
- Using artificial light to kill black bear cubs and their mothers while hibernating in their dens
- Shooting vulnerable, swimming caribou.
- Using dogs to hunt black bears

Neither the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) nor any other law strips NPS of their jurisdiction over national preserve lands in Alaska. The NPS's 2015 rule neither restricted subsistence hunting nor prevented the taking of wildlife for public safety purposes or defense of property. It merely banned *egregious* hunting methods.

- Time after time, the NPS appealed to the Alaska Board of Game to amend its "**Intensive Management**" rules to exempt national preserves from abusive practices, but the BOG refused to relent. As a result, in 2014, the NPS was forced to initiate a rulemaking to ensure that its statutory mandates were followed by clarifying that **these inhumane unsustainable hunting practices are not consistent with their statutory mandates to conserve wildlife species.** These sensible management actions are well within the authority of NPS and are necessary to carry out their congressional mandate.

American Taxpayers fund the management of these federal public lands. NPS lands in Alaska are federal lands, **maintained with citizens' taxes.** Millions of American taxpayers travel to Alaska each year for the unique opportunity to see bears, wolves, river otters, wolverines, and lynx in America's national parks, preserves, and refuges. **Wildlife watchers outnumber hunters by nearly five to one in Alaska, and they spend five times more than hunters do for wildlife recreational opportunities.**

- According to the NPS: "**In 2016, 2.8 Million park visitors spent an estimated \$1.3 Billion in local gateway regions while visiting NPS lands in Alaska. These expenditures supported a total of 18.9 Thousand jobs, \$644.7 Million in labor income, \$1.1 Billion in value added, and \$1.9 Billion in economic output in the Alaska economy.**"

### The majority of Alaskans support banning cruel methods of killing in their state.

- A statewide poll shows that Alaskan voters strongly support eliminating such cruel and unsporting practices used to kill bears, wolves, and coyotes on Alaska federal lands.
- At a series of public meetings on the proposed rules, hundreds of Alaskans turned out to support the rule because they want these inhumane, unsustainable practices to end.



March 15, 2018

# The Humane Society of the United States applauds National Park Service decision to launch wolf augmentation program on Isle Royale

**Media Contact:** Kirsten Peek: 301-548-7793, [kpeek@humanesociety.org](mailto:kpeek@humanesociety.org)

Today, the National Park Service announced its decision to augment the Isle Royale, Michigan wolf population with 20 to 30 animals within three years. New wolves will restore necessary ecological balance to Isle Royale's forest ecosystem, by controlling the island's swelling moose population, which is causing great harm to its forests. The HSUS strongly supports the NPS decision.

"With the loss of Isle Royale's ice bridges due to climate change, wolves could not reach the island. This spelled disaster not only for the park's environmental health, but doomed its overabundant moose population to slow, cruel starvation," said Nicole Paquette, vice president of wildlife at The Humane Society of the United States. "The two wolves left on the island are too inbred to successfully reproduce; it's been heartbreaking to witness the harm that lack of genetic diversity has caused on Isle Royale."

**From:** [Michael Gale](#)  
**To:** [maureen\\_foster@ios.doi.gov](mailto:maureen_foster@ios.doi.gov)  
**Cc:** [Greg Sheehan](#); [Jim Kurth](#); [Stephen Guertin](#); [Charisa Morris](#)  
**Subject:** "Hot Topics" for Dep Sec Check-in  
**Date:** Monday, October 16, 2017 10:25:08 AM

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Maureen,

Here are the topics that Greg wanted to talk about at the check-in meeting this week with the Deputy Secretary:

- Arctic National Wildlife Refuge Proposed Rule
- ESA and Pesticides
- Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge Land Exchange
- Enhancement Findings for Lions and Elephants in Zambia and Zimbabwe
- S.O. 3355 on NEPA and S.O. 3356 on Sportsmen Access

Please let me know if you need additional information or need this in a different format.

Thanks,

Michael

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**Michael Gale**

Deputy Chief of Staff (Acting), Director's Office  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

202.208.4923 (office)  
571.982.2158 (cell)

**From:** [Gale, Michael](#)  
**To:** [Foster, Maureen](#)  
**Cc:** [Casey Hammond](#); [Greg Sheehan](#); [Jim Kurth](#); [Stephen Guertin](#); [Charisa Morris](#)  
**Subject:** Add. Items for Weekly Report 2017-08-09  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 8, 2017 11:12:37 AM

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Hello Maureen,

Per the request of our International Affairs and External Affairs programs, I've been asked to add two last minute additions to the Weekly Report for August 9, 2017.

Charisa asked that I highlight these last minute additions in a different color (orange) so that you can spot them right away, and I've [added them to the Google document](#) as well as pasted here for your immediate reference:

### **Week Ahead Announcement and Actions**

In mid-August, FWS will announce that after reviewing updated information from South Africa, it will again authorize imports of wild and wild-managed lions from South Africa taken during 2017-2019. In 2016, FWS listed the lion in eastern and southern Africa as threatened under the ESA. FWS contacted each of the countries within this region that have conducted trophy lion hunts in the past few years to obtain information on the country's lion population, management of lions, and how sport-hunting has contributed to survival of the species. FWS then authorized the import of wild and wild managed lion sport-hunted trophies in 2016. No outreach is planned because the status is unchanged from 2016.

### **30-60-Day Look Ahead**

At the end of August, FWS plans to publish in the *Federal Register* a change to the permitting status for imports of African elephant trophies from Zimbabwe. In 2014 and 2015, FWS was unable to determine that the hunting programs and subsequent imports of African elephant trophies from Zimbabwe met criteria under ESA regulations, so FWS could not authorize the issuance of import permits. After receiving information from Zimbabwe on a number of substantial improvements to their management program and elephant conservation efforts, FWS has determined that taking of African elephant trophy animals in Zimbabwe on or after January 21, 2016 (the date that Zimbabwe's new management plan was officially adopted) through 2017 would enhance the survival of African elephants, and import permits can be issued for these trophies. Planned outreach includes a news release, comprehensive FAQs and social media.

Please let us know if you have any questions on this new material, and please accept our apologies for the last minute addition.

cheers,

Michael

--

## Michael Gale

Deputy Chief of Staff (Acting), Director's Office  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

202.208.4923 (office)  
571.982.2158 (cell)

**From:** [Foster, Maureen](#)  
**To:** [Greg Sheehan](#)  
**Cc:** [Charisa Morris](#); [Jim Kurth](#); [Stephen Guertin](#)  
**Subject:** Additional info for the 9:00 tomorrow  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 15, 2017 6:46:33 PM

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Greg:

First, I apologize for leaving you holding the bag on several items for tomorrow. As I just explained to Aurelia, I shared all the information that I have; unfortunately, at 6:30 at night, there are not too many folks around to ask for more.

Second, I am looping the other deputies and the chief of staff into the discussion since they may be able to help answer or get the answers.

Here are the ones that I didn't know:

(b) (5) DPP  
[Redacted text block]

I will let Aurelia know that I have alerted you all that she needs additional info.

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](mailto:Maureen_Foster@ios.doi.gov)

**From:** [Gale, Michael](#)  
**To:** [Greg Sheehan](#)  
**Cc:** [Gary Frazer](#); [Jim Kurth](#); [Stephen Guertin](#); [Charisa Morris](#); [Gloria Bell](#)  
**Subject:** BP / PPT on Predators  
**Date:** Tuesday, September 5, 2017 10:17:40 AM  
**Attachments:** [Predators\\_BP\\_09012017.doc](#)  
[USFWS Predators.pptx](#)

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Hello Greg,

Attached is the briefing paper and PowerPoint presentation on predators under the ESA that Ecological Services and International Affairs prepared. I've reviewed these materials--the programs did an excellent job on short notice.

I've put a hard copy on your chair. Please feel free to make any edits to that hard copy version or the electronic ones attached.

They are due to FWP by COB today, per a request from Maureen who was forwarded the note from Downey.

Thanks!

Michael

--

Michael Gale

Deputy Chief of Staff (Acting), Director's Office  
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September 4, 2017

**INFORMATION MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY**

**FROM:** Greg Sheehan, Principal Deputy Director, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

**PHONE:** (202) 208-4545

**SUBJECT:** Predators Managed under the Endangered Species Act (ESA)

**I. BACKGROUND**

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) is entrusted with the conservation and management of several large predatory species under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). In this document, we outline the current status and issues for a number of these high-profile species.

**II. DISCUSSION**

Nonresponsive Records

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**Lion**

On December 23, 2015, the Service listed two subspecies of lions in Africa under the ESA, *Panthera leo leo*, located in India and western and central Africa, was listed as endangered species and *Panthera leo melanochaita*, located in eastern and southern Africa, was listed as a threatened species. As part of the listing, the Service included a rule under section 4(d) of the ESA for *P. l. melanochaita*. The 4(d) rule provides conservation measures for this subspecies by establishing a permitting mechanism for the importation of sport hunted *P. l. melanochaita* trophies in order to ensure hunting contributes to the survival of the species in the wild. The effective date of the listing was January 22, 2016.

On October 19, 2016, the Service announced the determination that the import of sport-hunted wild and wild-managed lions taken in South Africa during 2016 would enhance the propagation

or survival of the species. On August 31, 2017, the Service announced a positive finding for wild and wild-managed lions taken in South Africa in 2017, 2018, and 2019. Although the agency is continuing to work with the South African government and organizations such as the South African Predator Association, we have not been able to make a positive finding for the import of captive-bred lion trophies for 2016 or 2017.

The Service has communicated with other range countries to obtain information on their lion populations and management regimes for lions. The Service is working to finalize our findings for lions taken in Mozambique, Namibia, Tanzania, Zimbabwe, and Zambia at this time. The Service is supporting projects that assist with vital operating costs for wildlife security and management in 7 of the 10 lionscapes, including in Kenya, Mozambique, South Africa, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Nonresponsive  
Records

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

**PREPARED BY:** Ecological Services and International Affairs, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service



# Predators Managed Under the ESA



Greg Sheehan  
Principal Deputy Director  
USFWS











# Lion

(formerly the African lion)

- On December 23, 2015, we listed two subspecies of lions in Africa under the ESA: *Panthera leo leo*, located in India and western and central Africa, were listed as endangered species and *Panthera leo melanochaita*, located in eastern and southern Africa, were listed as a threatened species with a 4(d) rule.



Photo Credit: William Warby





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- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
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- [REDACTED]
  - [REDACTED]
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  - [REDACTED]
  - [REDACTED]
  - [REDACTED]
  - [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
  - [REDACTED]

**Lion and Elephant ESA Enhancement Findings:**

- USFWS has determined that the hunting and management programs for lions (*Panthera leo melanochaita*) in Zambia and Zimbabwe will enhance the survival of the species in the wild, which is required prior to allowing import of these trophies under Endangered Species Act regulations. USFWS is now issuing permits to import these trophies. USFWS anticipates completing a positive finding for elephants (*Loxodonta africana*) in Zambia and will be able to issue permits once that finding is in place.
- Date and Action: October 20: Zimbabwe and Zambia ESA enhancement findings completed for lions, covering trophies taken during 2016-2018; October 27: anticipated date that Zambia ESA enhancement finding for elephants will be completed.
- Controversy and media attention expected: These determinations are likely to be controversial with some animal rights and conservation groups opposed to lion hunting. USFWS has updated its website and created a Sport-hunted Trophies: Lions page to provide an updated status on ESA findings.
- Items of note: USFWS has already issued and mailed all 35 pending permit applications for Zimbabwe and Zambia lion sport-hunted trophies and key stakeholders have been notified. The Zambia elephant finding will not be rolled out until the already completed Zimbabwe elephant finding has been published in the Federal Register.
- Interested parties: Safari Club International, Conservation Force, National Rifle Association, individual sport hunters, Zimbabwe and Zambia governments, conservation and animal rights organizations.
- **UPDATE:**
  - Exec sec sent forward for policy approval on 11/6/17









**From:** [Gale, Michael](#)  
**To:** [Foster, Maureen](#)  
**Cc:** [Greg Sheehan](#); [Charisa Morris](#); [Jim Kurth](#); [Stephen Guertin](#); [Zachariah Gambill](#)  
**Subject:** Bullets for Secretary's BiWeekly Check-in  
**Date:** Monday, October 23, 2017 11:04:32 AM

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Hello Maureen,

Here are some bullets for the biweekly Secretary Check-in for this week based on some feedback from Greg:

- **Nonresponsive Records**
  - [REDACTED]
- Enhancement Finding for Lions and Elephants:
  - USFWS has determined that the hunting and management programs for lions (*Panthera leo melanochaita*) in Zambia and Zimbabwe and for elephants (*Loxodonta africana*) in Zambia will enhance the survival of the species in the wild, which is required prior to allowing import of these trophies under Endangered Species Act regulations. USFWS is now issuing permits to import these trophies.
- **Nonresponsive Records**
  - [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
  - [REDACTED]

Please let us know if you need any additional information.

cheers,

Michael

--

Michael Gale

Deputy Chief of Staff (Acting), Director's Office  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

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**From:** [Gustavson, Angela](#)  
**To:** [Angela Gustavson](#)  
**Subject:** Congressional Affairs Update  
**Date:** Friday, May 11, 2018 4:36:30 PM  
**Attachments:** [5.11.18.docx](#)

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Good afternoon,

The Congressional Affairs Update for this week is attached.

This week, Secretary Zinke testified before the Senate Interior Appropriations Subcommittee on the FY 2019 budget proposal for Interior.

In addition, the House Armed Services Committee held a markup of the National Defense Authorization Act, which included amendments and discussion of interest to the Service.

The Senate released their 2018 Water Resources Development Act and held a hearing on the bill.

Next week, the House Natural Resources Water, Power, and Oceans Subcommittee will hold an oversight hearing on injurious species management.

Have a good weekend,

Angela

Angela Gustavson  
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## CONGRESSIONAL AFFAIRS UPDATE

*Division of Congressional and Legislative Affairs  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service*

May 11, 2018

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### 2018 Congressional Recess Schedule

<i>Senate</i>	<i>Holidays &amp; Special Days</i>	<i>House</i>
<b>State Work Period</b> May 28-June 1	<b>Memorial Day</b> May 28	<b>District Work Period</b> May 28-June 1
<b>State Work Period</b> July 2-July 6	<b>Independence Day</b> July 4	<b>District Work Period</b> July 2-July 6
<b>State Work Period</b> Aug. 6-Sep. 3 Sep. 10-Sep. 11 Sep. 19	<b>Labor Day</b> Sep. 3 <b>Rosh Hashanah</b> <b>Yom Kippur</b>	<b>District Work Period</b> July 30-Sep. 3 Sep. 10-Sep. 11 <b>District Work Period</b> Sep. 17-Sep. 21
Oct. 8	<b>Columbus Day</b>	Oct. 8
<b>State Work Period</b> Oct. 29-Nov. 12	<b>Veterans Day</b> Nov. 12 (observed)	<b>District Work Period</b> Oct. 15-Nov. 9
<b>State Work Period</b> Nov. 19-Nov. 23	<b>Thanksgiving Day</b> Nov. 22	<b>District Work Period</b> Nov. 19-Nov. 23
	<b>Targeted Adjournment Date</b> Dec. 14	

### HEARINGS AND MARKUPS OF INTEREST

#### **House Committee Holds Markup of Sportsmen's Legislation**

On Tuesday, May 8, the House Committee on Natural Resources held a full committee markup of nine bills, one of which was of interest to the Service. H.R. 2591, sponsored by Rep. Austin Scott (R-GA), amends the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act to modernize funding for wildlife conservation. H.R. 2591 was passed out of committee by unanimous consent, with one amendment changing the date within the bill from 2017 to 2018.

For more information, please visit:

<https://naturalresources.house.gov/calendar/eventsingle.aspx?EventID=404614>

#### **House Committee Holds Markup of NDAA for FY19**

On Wednesday, May 9, the House Committee on Armed Services held a full committee markup of H.R. 5515, the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for Fiscal Year 2019. The Chairman's mark of the NDAA, released on May 7, includes several provisions of interest to the Service, including making permanent certain land withdrawals, allowing the transfer of 5,000 acres of land between DOI and DOD, moving the implementation of the Sikes Act from the

Service to DOI, and amending the MMPA to extend the period of incidental take authorization requests from five to ten years. Two amendments were made during the markup that are of interest to the Service, including:

- An amendment offered by **Representative Rob Bishop (R-UT-1)**, which prevents the Service from listing the greater sage grouse and the lesser prairie chicken for ten years. It would also effectively delist the American burying beetle. In addition, it would shield all of these actions from judicial review. **Ranking Member Adam Smith (D-WA-9)** and **Representatives Donald McEachin (D-VA-4), Niki Tsongas (D-MA-3), Anthony Brown (D-MD-4), and Jackie Speier (D-CA-14)** criticized the amendment as unrelated to military operations and therefore inappropriate for the Armed Services Committee to address, not supported by the military, and unnecessary given the existing authorities for DOD flexibility under the ESA and the Sikes Act. **Rep. Bishop** and **Representative Doug Lamborn (R-CO-5)** defended the amendment, stating that current management of the species limits military training opportunities and that states are better suited to manage the species. The amendment passed along party lines, 33-28.
- **Representative Duncan Hunter (R-CA-50)** offered an amendment to include his bill, H.R. 788, Target Practice and Marksmanship Training and Support Act, to the NDAA. The Duncan amendment would amend the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act to limit the state cost-share for shooting range construction, maintenance or expansion to 10 percent, and allow the amounts provided under the Act to be available for five years. **Representative Hunter** stated that his amendment would help recruitment efforts for the military as well as support the health and readiness of existing members of the military. **Representative Steve Russell (R-OK-5)** supported the amendment, while **Representative Susan Davis (D-CA-53)** expressed skepticism that the amendment would increase recruitment. The amendment was adopted by voice vote.

For more information, please visit:

<https://armedservices.house.gov/about/markups/hr-5515-national-defense-authorization-act-fiscal-year-2019>

### **Senate Appropriations Subcommittee Discusses FY 2019 Budget Request for Interior**

On Thursday, May 10, Secretary of the Interior Ryan Zinke testified before the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies at an oversight hearing examining the President's budget request for the Department of the Interior for fiscal year 2019. Members spoke to several issues of interest to the Service, including:

- **Chairman Lisa Murkowski (R-AK), Ranking Member Tom Udall (D-NM) and Senator Lamar Alexander (R-TN)** expressed their support for increases in the FY18 omnibus for addressing the maintenance backlog.
- **Chairman Murkowski** expressed her support for the Administration's efforts to open up federal lands to energy development. **Chairman Murkowski** also asked about the status of the Coopers Landing Bypass land exchange in Alaska.
- **Ranking Member Udall** and **Chairman Murkowski** asked about DOI reorganization efforts and expressed their concerns over the lack of tribal consultation in the planning process. **Senator Steve Daines (R-MT)** praised the inclusion of reorganization in the FY19 budget proposal.
- **Ranking Member Udall** asked for a commitment from the Secretary to follow

congressional direction and intent when executing the FY18 budget.

- **Ranking Member Udall** asked for an update on the Izembek Road Land Exchange. He and **Senator Chris Van Hollen (D-MD)** also expressed their concerns over drilling in the Alaska 1002 area. **Senator Van Hollen** specifically asked about the scientific data to be collected to make a sound decision on drilling.
- **Senator Marco Rubio (R-FL)** asked about the Administration's support for Florida Everglades restoration.
- **Senator Shelley Moore Capito (R-WV)** discussed the need for replacement of the visitor center at Canaan Valley NWR and asked for assurance that the visitor center was a high priority.
- **Senator Steve Daines (R-MT)** discussed his Cottonwood legislation and inquired whether the Secretary supported his efforts to reduce burdens to consultation when agencies receive new information about a species.
- **Senator Patrick Leahy (D-VT), Senator Jon Tester (D-MT), Ranking Member Udall** and **Senator Daines** spoke of the importance of the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) to their communities and expressed their support of permanent reauthorization of LWCF.
- **Senator Van Hollen** asked about the reinterpretation of the MBTA and whether the new guidance intends for oil companies to no longer pay damages or be held responsible after oil spills for a massive loss of birds covered under the MBTA.

For more information, please visit:

<https://www.appropriations.senate.gov/hearings/hearing-to-review-the-fy2019-budget-request-for-the-us-department-of-interior>

### **Senate EPW Discusses Water Resources Development Legislation**

On Wednesday, May 9, the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works held a legislative hearing to examine S. \_\_\_\_\_, America's Water Infrastructure Act of 2018. This bill is the Senate version of the 2018 Water Resources Development Act.

- **Senator Ben Cardin (D-MD)** noted the importance of this bill to the Chesapeake Bay, specifically addressing the importance of Poplar Island and Mid Bay Island.
- **Ranking Member Tom Carper (D-DE)** asked how grey and green infrastructure can work together on coastal areas.
- **Senator Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY)** mentioned the devastating impacts of aquatic invasive species, and asked what barriers exist to natural infrastructure and wetland restoration projects.

For more information, please visit:

<https://www.epw.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/hearings?ID=754B22D7-63B6-403F-A83A-6855A0DECF61>

## UPCOMING HEARINGS AND MARKUPS

### **House Committee to Mark Up Natural Resource Legislation**

On Wednesday, May 16, the House Committee on Natural Resources will hold a markup of pending legislation referred to the Committee. The markup is scheduled for 10:15 a.m. in 1324 Longworth House Office Building.

For more information, please visit:

<https://naturalresources.house.gov/calendar/eventsingle.aspx?EventID=404654>

### **House Subcommittee to Examine Injurious Species Management**

On Thursday, May 17, the House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Water, Power and Oceans will hold an oversight hearing entitled “Federal Impediments to Commerce and Innovative Injurious Species Management.” The hearing is scheduled for 10:00 a.m. in 1324 Longworth House Office Building.

For more information, please visit:

<https://naturalresources.house.gov/calendar/eventsingle.aspx?EventID=404660>

## INTRODUCED LEGISLATION OF INTEREST

### **H.R.5763 — To implement the Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels, and for other purposes.**

Sponsor: Rep. Lowenthal, Alan S. [D-CA-47] (Introduced 05/10/2018) Cosponsors: (12)

Committees: House - Natural Resources, Foreign Affairs

Latest Action: House - 05/10/2018 Referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

### **S.2834 — A bill to amend the Food Security Act of 1985 to improve the wetland conservation program.**

Sponsor: Sen. Hoeven, John [R-ND] (Introduced 05/10/2018) Cosponsors: (0)

Committees: Senate - Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

Latest Action: Senate - 05/10/2018 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

### **S.2827 — A bill to amend the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Foundation Act.**

Sponsor: Sen. Heinrich, Martin [D-NM] (Introduced 05/10/2018) Cosponsors: (1)

Committees: Senate - Environment and Public Works

Latest Action: Senate - 05/10/2018 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

### **S.2815 — A bill to amend title 28, United States Code, to increase transparency and oversight of third-party litigation funding in certain actions, and for other purposes.**

Sponsor: Sen. Grassley, Chuck [R-IA] (Introduced 05/10/2018) Cosponsors: (2)

Committees: Senate - Judiciary

Latest Action: Senate - 05/10/2018 Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

**H.R.5742 — To provide for a land exchange of Federal and non-Federal land in Whitman County, Washington.**

Sponsor: Rep. McMorris Rodgers, Cathy [R-WA-5] (Introduced 05/09/2018) Cosponsors: (0)

Committees: House - Transportation and Infrastructure

Latest Action: House - 05/09/2018 Referred to the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

**H.R.5727 — To establish the San Rafael Swell Western Heritage and Historic Mining National Conservation Area in the State of Utah, to designate wilderness areas in the State, to provide for certain land conveyances, and for other purposes.**

Sponsor: Rep. Curtis, John R. [R-UT-3] (Introduced 05/09/2018) Cosponsors: (1)

Committees: House - Natural Resources

Latest Action: House - 05/09/2018 Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.

**H.R.5720 — To deauthorize a portion of a project in California, and for other purposes.**

Sponsor: Rep. Calvert, Ken [R-CA-42] (Introduced 05/09/2018) Cosponsors: (2)

Committees: House - Transportation and Infrastructure

Latest Action: House - 05/09/2018 Referred to the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

**S.2811 — A bill to amend the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 to reauthorize the Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Fund, and for other purposes.**

Sponsor: Sen. Merkley, Jeff [D-OR] (Introduced 05/09/2018) Cosponsors: (6)

Committees: Senate - Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

Latest Action: Senate - 05/09/2018 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

**S.2809 — A bill to establish the San Rafael Swell Western Heritage and Historic Mining National Conservation Area in the State of Utah, to designate wilderness areas in the State, to provide for certain land conveyances, and for other purposes.**

Sponsor: Sen. Hatch, Orrin G. [R-UT] (Introduced 05/09/2018) Cosponsors: (0)

Committees: Senate - Energy and Natural Resources

Latest Action: Senate - 05/09/2018 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

**H.R.5697 — To support wildlife conservation, improve anti-trafficking enforcement, provide dedicated funding for wildlife conservation at no expense to taxpayers, and for other purposes.**

Sponsor: Rep. Bordallo, Madeleine Z. [D-GU-At Large] (Introduced 05/08/2018) Cosponsors: (1)

Committees: House - Natural Resources, Judiciary

Latest Action: House - 05/08/2018 Referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the

Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

**S.2803 — A bill to amend the Energy Policy Act of 2005 to improve the conversion, use, and storage of carbon dioxide produced from fossil fuels, and for other purposes.**

Sponsor: Sen. Manchin, Joe, III [D-WV] (Introduced 05/08/2018) Cosponsors: (1)

Committees: Senate - Energy and Natural Resources

Latest Action: Senate - 05/08/2018 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

**S.2800 — A bill to provide for the conservation and development of water and related resources, to authorize the Secretary of the Army to construct various projects for improvements to rivers and harbors of the United States, and for other purposes.**

Sponsor: Sen. Barrasso, John [R-WY] (Introduced 05/08/2018) Cosponsors: (3)

Committees: Senate - Environment and Public Works

Latest Action: Senate - 05/08/2018 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

**H.R.5690 — To amend the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to prohibit the taking for a trophy of any endangered or threatened species of fish or wildlife in the United States and the importation of endangered and threatened species trophies into the United States, and for other purposes.**

Sponsor: Rep. Jackson Lee, Sheila [D-TX-18] (Introduced 05/07/2018) Cosponsors: (3)

Committees: House - Natural Resources

Latest Action: House - 05/07/2018 Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.

**H.R.5688 — To amend the Water Resources Development Act of 1990 relating to the operation and maintenance of navigation facilities, and for other purposes.**

Sponsor: Rep. Bustos, Cheri [D-IL-17] (Introduced 05/07/2018) Cosponsors: (1)

Committees: House - Transportation and Infrastructure

Latest Action: House - 05/07/2018 Referred to the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

**H.Res.871 — Expressing support for the designation of the week of June 2, 2018, through June 10, 2018, as National Fishing and Boating Week.**

Sponsor: Rep. Joyce, David P. [R-OH-14] (Introduced 05/07/2018) Cosponsors: (3)

Committees: House - Transportation and Infrastructure, Natural Resources

Latest Action: House - 05/07/2018 Referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committee on Natural Resources, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

**H.Res.868 — Expressing support for the designation of May 27, 2018, through June 2, 2018, as "Great Lakes Week".**

Sponsor: Rep. Bishop, Mike [R-MI-8] (Introduced 05/03/2018) Cosponsors: (19)

Committees: House - Transportation and Infrastructure, Natural Resources

Latest Action: House - 05/04/2018 Referred to the Subcommittee on Water, Power and Oceans.

**From:** [Gustavson, Angela](#)  
**To:** [Angela Gustavson](#)  
**Subject:** Congressional Affairs Update  
**Date:** Friday, July 13, 2018 5:24:32 PM  
**Attachments:** [7.13.18.docx](#)

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Good afternoon,

The Congressional Affairs Update for this week is attached.

Last week, Senator Barrasso released a draft ESA reform bill that will be the subject of a hearing next week on July 17. In addition, yesterday, the House Western Caucus introduced a package of ESA reform bills.

Next week, the Interior appropriations bill for FY 2019 is expected to be considered on the House floor. A number of amendments of interest to the Service have been submitted for consideration by the Rules Committee at a meeting scheduled for July 16.

Next week there are several hearings of interest to the Service, including on the ESA, waterfowl hunting, and government reorganization efforts.

Have a good weekend,

Angela

Angela Gustavson  
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CONGRESSIONAL AFFAIRS UPDATE

Division of Congressional and Legislative Affairs  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

July 13, 2018

2018 Congressional Recess Schedule

<i>Senate</i>	<i>Holidays &amp; Special Days</i>	<i>House</i>
<b>State Work Period</b> Aug. 6-Aug. 10	<b>Labor Day</b> Sep. 3	<b>District Work Period</b> July 30-Sep. 3
Sep. 10-Sep. 11	<b>Rosh Hashanah</b>	Sep. 10-Sep. 11
Sep. 19	<b>Yom Kippur</b>	<b>District Work Period</b> Sep. 17-Sep. 21
Oct. 8	<b>Columbus Day</b>	Oct. 8
<b>State Work Period</b> Oct. 29-Nov. 12	<b>Veterans Day</b> Nov. 12 (observed)	<b>District Work Period</b> Oct. 15-Nov. 9
<b>State Work Period</b> Nov. 19-Nov. 23	<b>Thanksgiving Day</b> Nov. 22	<b>District Work Period</b> Nov. 19-Nov. 23
	<b>Targeted Adjournment Date</b> Dec. 14	

UPDATES ON LEGISLATION OF INTEREST

**Senate Releases ESA Reform Legislation**

On Monday, July 2, the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works **Chairman John Barrasso (R-WY)** released draft legislation to reform the Endangered Species Act. The Endangered Species Act Amendments of 2018 discussion draft, which was developed in consultation with the Western Governors Association, would provide the states with a greater role in implementation of the ESA through recovery teams, listing proposals, and candidate conservation, among other things. The draft bill will be the subject of a legislative hearing on July 17.

For more information, please visit: <https://www.epw.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/press-releases-republican?ID=D10FBBD-8886-4E0F-950B-A24DE5726CE4>

**House Western Caucus Introduces Package of ESA Reform Legislation**

On Thursday, June 12, the House Western Caucus introduced nine bills as a part of a legislative package to reform the Endangered Species Act. The package includes legislation that would, among other things, authorize the Secretary of the Interior to delist species upon receipt of information demonstrating the species is recovered; require consultation with State agencies regarding listing determinations; establish voluntary conservation incentive programs; reform the petition process; authorize cooperative agreements between the Secretary of the Interior and State agencies to manage listed species; codify certain requirements for Safe Harbor Agreements, Candidate Conservation Agreements with Assurances, and Habitat Conservation

Plans; require consideration of all conservation actions underway; limit critical habitat designations in limited water storage areas; and require transparency and public disclosure of data used in listing determinations.

For more information, please visit: <https://westerncaucus.house.gov/issues/issue/?IssueID=14890>

### **Interior Appropriations Bill for FY 2019 to be Considered on House Floor**

During the week of July 16, the House of Representatives is expected to take up H.R. 6147, the Interior, Environment, Financial Services, and General Government Appropriations Act of 2019. The bill funds the Service at \$1.6 billion and increases funding for the State and Tribal Wildlife Grants and the North American Wetlands Conservation Act, among other programs. On Monday, July 16, the House Committee on Rules will consider numerous amendments that have been submitted to the Committee, including 36 of relevance to the Service. Some of these amendments include:

- #3: Smith (R-MO-8), Gianforte (R-MT-AL), which prevents the payment of attorney's fees as part of any settlement the Federal Government enters into under the Clean Air Act, the Clean Water Act, and the Endangered Species Act.
- #28: Beyer (D-VA-8), which strips all ESA riders from the bill.
- #35: Abraham (R-LA-5), Westerman (R-AR-4), Crawford (R-AR-1), which prevents the enforcement of limitations or prohibitions on the use of GMO seed in commercial agricultural operations conducted on National Wildlife Refuges.
- #68: Lamborn (R-CO-5), which prohibits the use of funds to implement or enforce the threatened species or endangered species listing of any plant or wildlife that has not undergone a review as required by section 4(c)(2) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973.
- #84: Soto (D-FL-9), which increases funding for the National Wildlife Refuge System by \$500,000 for the Wildlife and Habitat Management of invasive species.
- #95: Grijalva (D-AZ-4), which prohibits funds for the construction of a border wall in the Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge.
- #100: Grijalva (D-AZ-4), which prohibits funds for trophy hunting permits authorizing importation from any country of an elephant trophy or lion trophy from Zimbabwe, Zambia, or Tanzania.
- #127: Smith (R-MO-8), which prevents funds from being used to designate critical habitat on private land under the Endangered Species Act.

The bill will likely be considered on the House floor later in the week.

For a list of all submitted amendments to the Rules Committee, please visit:

<https://rules.house.gov/bill/115/hr-6147>

For the full bill text, please visit:

<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/BILLS-115hr6147rh/pdf/BILLS-115hr6147rh.pdf>

For the Report on H.R. 6147, please visit:

<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/CRPT-115hrpt765/pdf/CRPT-115hrpt765.pdf>

## HEARINGS AND MARKUPS OF INTEREST

### **House Committee Marks Up Cormorant Depredation Legislation**

On Wednesday, July 11, the House Committee on Natural Resources held a markup of pending bills referred to the Committee, one of which is of interest to the Service. H.R. 6302, sponsored by **Representative Jack Bergman (R-MI-1)**, reinstates both cormorant Depredation Orders, which allow the take of cormorants without FWS permits, until FWS finalizes new cormorant-related regulations. The bill was approved by the Committee by a vote of 19-13 with a minor technical amendment.

For more information, please visit:

<https://naturalresources.house.gov/calendar/eventsingle.aspx?EventID=405252>

### **House Subcommittee Holds Legislative Hearing on Administration of Water Facilities**

On Wednesday, July 11, the House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Water, Power and Oceans held a legislative hearing on several bills related to the administration of water facilities. Of interest to the Service, H.R. 5556, the Environmental Compliance Cost Transparency Act of 2018, sponsored by **Representative Paul Gosar (R-AZ-4)**, would require the four power marketing administrations to report in ratepayers' bills the cost of fish and wildlife compliance measures. Members of the Subcommittee spoke to several issues of interest to the Service, including:

- **Rep. Gosar** stated that fish and wildlife compliance costs are some of the highest variable costs for hydropower, and discussed his bill as providing the transparency necessary to keep hydropower viable.
- **Representative Jimmy Gomez (D-CA-34)** suggested that to increase transparency, H.R. 5556 should include other variable costs, including those related to irrigation and transmission. He also discussed the benefits of environmental conservation and the services that healthy ecosystems provide.
- **Representative Doug LaMalfa (R-CA-1)** discussed the challenges of balancing the water needs for power and irrigation in California with the requirements for fish and wildlife compliance.
- **Representative Don Beyer (D-VA-8)** asked how often consumers requested the information required by H.R. 5556, and questioned potential bias in calculating compliance costs.

For more information, please visit:

<https://naturalresources.house.gov/calendar/eventsingle.aspx?EventID=405249>

### **House Subcommittee Considers the Role of Grazing on Federal Lands**

On Thursday, July 12, the House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Federal Lands held an oversight hearing titled "The Essential Role of Livestock Grazing on Federal Lands and Its Importance to Rural America." Members of the Subcommittee spoke to several issues of interest to the Service, including:

- **Chairman Tom McClintock (R-CA-4)** discussed how litigation, and fear thereof, has impacted grazing on public lands and expressed the subcommittee's goal to restore responsible grazing to those lands.

- **Ranking Member Niki Tsongas (D-MA-3)** stated that the Committee should be focusing on giving federal agencies more tools for grazing management, citing that costs of management greatly outweigh the money. She expressed support for H.R. 3624, the Rural Economic Vitalization Act, which would allow ranchers to be paid by third parties to voluntarily retire grazing permits.
- **Full Committee Chairman Rob Bishop (R-UT-1)**, and **Representatives Greg Gianforte (R-MT-AL)** and **Scott Tipton (R-CO-3)** asked how grazing benefits sage grouse and sagebrush ecosystems by reducing risk of fire and invasives. **Representative Glenn Thompson (R-PA-5)** spoke directly to sage grouse and the need to address non-grazing threats to sage grouse, such as predation by ravens.

For more information, please visit:

<https://naturalresources.house.gov/calendar/eventsingle.aspx?EventID=405255>

## UPCOMING HEARINGS OF INTEREST

### **Senate Committee to Examine Amendments to the Endangered Species Act**

On Tuesday, July 17, the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works will hold a legislative hearing on a discussion draft of S. \_\_\_\_\_, the Endangered Species Act Amendments of 2018. Among other things, the proposal provides states with increased authority in writing species recovery goals, habitat objectives and other criteria for delisting or downlisting at-risk animals and plants under the Endangered Species Act. The Department of the Interior has not been invited to testify. The hearing is scheduled for 9:45 a.m. in 406 Dirksen Senate Office Building.

For more information, please visit:

<https://www.epw.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/hearings?ID=69B85B0B-EFAB-487F-8BF6-92D668D9037A>

### **House Subcommittee to Discuss Waterfowl Hunting Legislation**

On Tuesday, July 17, the House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Federal Lands will hold a legislative hearing on numerous bills referred to the Committee, including one of interest to the Service. H.R. 6013, sponsored by **Chairman Rob Bishop (R-UT-1)**, opens the duck hunting season a week early for veterans and youth and prohibits the reduction in hunting season length or bag limits for ducks from the 2017-2018 hunting season. The Service will submit a Statement for the Record on the legislation. The hearing is scheduled for 10:00 a.m. in 1324 Longworth House Office Building.

For more information, please visit:

<https://naturalresources.house.gov/calendar/eventsingle.aspx?EventID=405309>

### **Senate Committee to Examine Government Reorganization Proposal**

On Wednesday, July 18, the Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs will hold a full committee hearing to discuss the Administration's plan to reorganize the federal government. Margaret Weichert, Deputy Director for Management, will testify on behalf of the Office of Management and Budget. The hearing is scheduled for 10:00 a.m. in SD-342.

For more information, please visit:

<https://www.hsgac.senate.gov/hearings/reviewing-the-administrations-government-reorganization-proposal>

### **House Subcommittee to Discuss Preparations for 2018 Hurricane Season**

On Wednesday, July 18, the House Transportation Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings, and Emergency Management will hold an oversight hearing to discuss recovery from the 2017 hurricane season and preparations for the 2018 season. The hearing is scheduled for 10:00 a.m. in 2167 Rayburn House Office Building.

For more information, please visit:

<https://transportation.house.gov/calendar/eventsingle.aspx?EventID=402653>

### **Senate Committee to Consider DOI Reorganization Proposal**

On Thursday, July 19, the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources will hold an oversight hearing to examine the reorganization and modernization proposals for the Department of the Interior and the Department of Energy. Susan Combs, Acting Assistant Secretary for Fish, Wildlife and Parks, will testify on behalf of the Department of the Interior. The hearing is scheduled for 10:00 a.m. in 366 Dirksen Senate Office Building.

For more information, please visit:

<https://www.energy.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/hearings-and-business-meetings?ID=F549B937-C758-4DD7-B41E-6BE83068C050>

## **INTRODUCED LEGISLATION OF INTEREST**

### **H.R.6364 — To amend the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to increase State and local involvement in management plans.**

Sponsor: Rep. Young, Don [R-AK-At Large] (Introduced 07/12/2018) Cosponsors: (18)

Committees: House - Natural Resources

Latest Action: House - 07/12/2018 Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.

### **H.R.6362 — To establish an improved regulatory process to prevent the introduction and establishment in the United States of injurious wildlife.**

Sponsor: Rep. Stefanik, Elise M. [R-NY-21] (Introduced 07/12/2018) Cosponsors: (0)

Committees: House - Natural Resources, Judiciary, Ways and Means, Budget

Latest Action: House - 07/12/2018 Referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committees on the Judiciary, Ways and Means, and the Budget, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

### **H.R.6360 — To amend the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to provide for greater certainty and improved planning for incidental take permit holders.**

Sponsor: Rep. Norman, Ralph [R-SC-5] (Introduced 07/12/2018) Cosponsors: (17)

Committees: House - Natural Resources

Latest Action: House - 07/12/2018 Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.

**H.R.6356 — To amend the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to provide for improved precision in the listing, delisting, and downlisting of endangered species and potentially endangered species.**

Sponsor: Rep. Biggs, Andy [R-AZ-5] (Introduced 07/12/2018) Cosponsors: (23)

Committees: House - Natural Resources

Latest Action: House - 07/12/2018 Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.

**H.R.6355 — To amend the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to define petition backlogs and provide expedited means for discharging petitions during such a backlog.**

Sponsor: Rep. Westerman, Bruce [R-AR-4] (Introduced 07/12/2018) Cosponsors: (17)

Committees: House - Natural Resources

Latest Action: House - 07/12/2018 Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.

**H.R.6354 — STORAGE Act of 2018**

Sponsor: Rep. Gosar, Paul A. [R-AZ-4] (Introduced 07/12/2018) Cosponsors: (15)

Committees: House - Natural Resources

Latest Action: House - 07/12/2018 Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.

**H.R.6346 — To amend the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to provide for consideration of the totality of conservation measures in determining the impact of proposed Federal agency action.**

Sponsor: Rep. Johnson, Mike [R-LA-4] (Introduced 07/12/2018) Cosponsors: (24)

Committees: House - Natural Resources

Latest Action: House - 07/12/2018 Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.

**H.R.6345 — To provide for greater county and State consultation with regard to petitions under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, and for other purposes.**

Sponsor: Rep. Pearce, Stevan [R-NM-2] (Introduced 07/12/2018) Cosponsors: (23)

Committees: House - Natural Resources

Latest Action: House - 07/12/2018 Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.

**H.R.6344 — To amend the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to encourage voluntary conservation efforts.**

Sponsor: Rep. Tipton, Scott R. [R-CO-3] (Introduced 07/12/2018) Cosponsors: (15)

Committees: House - Natural Resources

Latest Action: House - 07/12/2018 Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.

**H.R.6336 — Fair Access for Farmers and Ranchers Act of 2018**

Sponsor: Rep. Fudge, Marcia L. [D-OH-11] (Introduced 07/11/2018) Cosponsors: (1)

Committees: House - Agriculture

Latest Action: House - 07/11/2018 Referred to the House Committee on Agriculture.

**S.3196 — A bill to defend economic livelihoods and threatened animals in the greater Okavango River Basin, and for other purposes.**

Sponsor: Sen. Portman, Rob [R-OH] (Introduced 07/11/2018) Cosponsors: (4)

Committees: Senate - Foreign Relations

Latest Action: Senate - 07/11/2018 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

**S.3195 — A bill to encourage greater community accountability of law enforcement agencies, and for other purposes.**

Sponsor: Sen. Cardin, Benjamin L. [D-MD] (Introduced 07/11/2018) Cosponsors: (0)

Committees: Senate - Judiciary

Latest Action: Senate - 07/11/2018 Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

**S.3193 — A bill to limit the establishment or extension of national monuments in the State of Utah.**

Sponsor: Sen. Lee, Mike [R-UT] (Introduced 07/11/2018) Cosponsors: (0)

Committees: Senate - Energy and Natural Resources

Latest Action: Senate - 07/11/2018 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

**S.Res.569 — A resolution recognizing the importance of public park and recreation facilities and activities and providing for the designation of the month of July 2018 as "Park and Recreation Month".**

Sponsor: Sen. Wyden, Ron [D-OR] (Introduced 07/09/2018) Cosponsors: (8)

Committees: Senate - Judiciary

Latest Action: Senate - 07/09/2018 Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

**H.R.6307 — Finger Lakes National Heritage Area Study Act**

Sponsor: Rep. Reed, Tom [R-NY-23] (Introduced 07/03/2018) Cosponsors: (6)

Committees: House - Natural Resources

Latest Action: House - 07/03/2018 Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.

**H.R.6302 — To enact as law certain regulations relating to the taking of double-crested cormorants.**

Sponsor: Rep. Bergman, Jack [R-MI-1] (Introduced 07/03/2018) Cosponsors: (0)

Committees: House - Natural Resources

Latest Action: House - 07/11/2018 Ordered to be Reported (Amended) by the Yeas and Nays: 19 - 13.

**H.R.6300 — National Ocean Policy Act of 2018**

Sponsor: Rep. Panetta, Jimmy [D-CA-20] (Introduced 06/29/2018) Cosponsors: (0)

Committees: House - Natural Resources

Latest Action: House - 06/29/2018 Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.

**H.R.6299 — To modify the process of the Secretary of the Interior for examining certain mining claims on Federal lands in Storey County, Nevada, to facilitate certain pinyon-juniper-related projects in Lincoln County, Nevada, to modify the boundaries of certain wilderness areas in the State of Nevada, to fully implement the White Pine County Conservation, Recreation, and Development Act, and for other purposes.**

Sponsor: Rep. Amodei, Mark E. [R-NV-2] (Introduced 06/29/2018) Cosponsors: (0)

Committees: House - Natural Resources, Oversight and Government Reform

Latest Action: House - 06/29/2018 Referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

**From:** [Morris, Charisa](#)  
**To:** [Larrabee, Jason](#); [Foster, Maureen](#)  
**Cc:** [Greg Sheehan](#); [Kashyap Patel](#); [Barbara Wainman](#); [Gavin Shire](#); [Stephen Guertin](#)  
**Subject:** Countrywide Findings Withdrawal Comms Materials  
**Date:** Thursday, March 1, 2018 12:30:09 PM  
**Attachments:** [website text revised \[clean\] \(3\).docx](#)  
[Statement on Withdrawal of Enhancement Findings V2.docx](#)  
[Potential media questions V2.docx](#)  
[Declaration of Enhancement Finding Withdrawal Comms Strat V2.docx](#)

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Good morning!

Please see the attached coms plans materials for the Countrywide Findings.

Greg has looked at these and didn't have any substantive changes, so wanted to get them to you ASAP. It sounds like we are still working with the WH on timing, but hoping we can wait until Monday given the inherent hazards around World Wildlife Day.

(b) (5) DPP

A large black rectangular redaction box covers the text in this section.

The statement and background speak for themselves; the potential media questions doc attempts to address some pointed questions we are likely to get, should we choose to do so.

Note that DOI COMS is getting these materials directly via our EA staff.

Please let us know if you have any edits by COB today.

Thanks!  
Charisa

--

[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





























**From:** [Gale, Michael](#)  
**To:** [Greg Sheehan](#); [Jim Kurth](#); [Stephen Guertin](#); [Charisa Morris](#); [Foster, Maureen](#); [Wainman, Barbara](#)  
**Cc:** [Matthew Huggler](#); [Matthew Trott](#)  
**Subject:** FishBites 09.12.17  
**Date:** Saturday, September 9, 2017 12:57:36 PM  
**Attachments:** [FishBites-9.13.17.docx](#)

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Hello,

I know a lot of folks are out on travel for AFWA, but I wanted to make sure you got the FishBites for this week anyway. They are attached and pasted below for your immediate reference.

I'm sending them a little early since I will be out of the office Monday through Wednesday.

cheers,

Michael

--

Michael Gale

Deputy Chief of Staff (Acting), Director's Office  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

202.208.4923 (office)  
571.982.2158 (cell)

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## **FishBites 09.13.17**

### *Reaffirming that hunting contributes to lion conservation in South Africa*

- **Topic:** On August 31, FWS approved the import of lion trophies taken in South Africa during permitted hunts from wild and wild-managed lion populations through the 2019 hunting seasons, unless information is received that would cause us to reconsider. U.S. hunters that hunt lions from these populations will be participating in a hunting program that provides a clear conservation benefit. This decision meets our obligation under the Endangered Species Act while building and sustaining community support for lion conservation and helping combat poaching and illegal trade in South Africa.

- **Supportive Stakeholders:** Safari Club International, National Rifle Association, Dallas Safari Club, sport hunters, hunting organizations

- **Impacted Location:** All U.S. States and territories

*FWS and partners in Maine undertake conservation work to preclude the need to list the yellow-banded bumblebee*

- **Topic:** FWS, Xerces Society and Natural Resource Conservation Service in Maine have established a team work collaboratively with private landowners in Maine to ensure they continue their farming traditions while implementing voluntary conservation measures to preclude the need to list the yellow-banded bumblebee, for which a listing determination is needed by early 2018. The goal is to have partners use the Working Lands for Wildlife program, which is a great tool to support landowners in ensuring they can maintain their land uses while supporting wildlife conservation and reducing regulatory burdens.

- **Supportive Stakeholders:** Xerces Society, Natural Resource Conservation Service

- **Impacted Location:** Maine

*North Dakota anglers to benefit from walleye stockings*

- **Topic:** Valley City NFH in Valley City, North Dakota, produced more walleye this year than in any other year in its 77-year history and in its 54 years of raising fish, Garrison Dam NFH in Riverdale, North Dakota, shipped a record number this year.

- **Supportive Stakeholders:** North Dakota Game and Fish Department, anglers

- **Impacted Location:** Fishing waters across the state of North Dakota

*Fish passage and transportation infrastructure in Kansas*

- **Topic:** FWS' National Fish Passage Program is contributing to recovery of endangered species, specifically Topeka shiner, while aiding local governments with rebuilding transportation infrastructure. At Washington Creek, a perched and undersized road crossing culvert was replaced with a bridge and channel restoration up stream. At Spring Creek, an undersized perched culvert was replaced with a free spanning bridge. Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks & Tourism has documented fish passage through both sites.

- **Supportive Stakeholders:** Douglas County, Kansas, Kansas Department of Transportation, Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks & Tourism

- **Impacted Locations:** Eastern Kansas

*FWS develops app to assess damage from tropical storms*

- **Topic:** FWS staff developed an app for data collection that can easily be used on location through a smart device. No additional equipment on the ground is required. This tool was used by the incident team in the aftermath of Hurricane Harvey and provided critical real-time information to others for immediate access and analyzing. Southwest Region staff established an R4 Rapid Hurricane Assessment Group, an operations dashboard and created a blank feature service that is ready for data collection on Hurricane Irma by a smart device.
- **Supportive Stakeholders:** National support anticipated, including full support from congressional members, other federal and state agencies, and partners as well as local community and many others
- **Impacted Locations:** Coastal Texas and Florida

*Rescued sea turtles fully recovered and to be released*

- **Topic:** Three sea turtles, stranded in December 2014 and 2015, are returning to the Pacific Ocean on September 11. The road to recovery for these turtles was long, but the Seattle Aquarium, the Oregon Coast Aquarium, and SeaWorld San Diego all worked together to revive, treat, transport, and release them successfully. All three have already provided us with valuable information on how to treat threatened sea turtles and lessons continue as all three will be equipped with satellite transmitters to map their travels. Together, with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, we support the science behind these efforts to save sea turtles when they become stranded.
- **Supportive Stakeholders:** West Coast communities, animal rights groups, ocean advocates
- **Impacted locations:** Oregon, Washington, California

## FishBites 09.13.17

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## FishBites 09.13.17

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- **Supportive Stakeholders:** West Coast communities, animal rights groups, ocean advocates
- **Impacted locations:** Oregon, Washington, California

**From:** [Gale, Michael](#)  
**To:** [Christine Bauserman](#); [Foster, Maureen](#); [dailybriefingbinder OS](#)  
**Cc:** [Greg Sheehan](#); [Jim Kurth](#); [Stephen Guertin](#); [Charisa Morris](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: 0907 Predators - Invitation to edit  
**Date:** Tuesday, September 5, 2017 3:18:29 PM  
**Attachments:** [USFWS Predators.pptx](#)  
[Predators BP 09012017.doc](#)

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Hello Christine and Maureen,

We received this request for briefing materials related to the upcoming meeting with the Secretary on Thursday, September 7th about **predators**. The request came both from FWP and the Office of the Secretary, and so I wanted to be responsive to both offices.

I've updated this Google Doc with the briefing information that Greg has reviewed. I've also attached the same material as a document file in case that's easier to access from your phone or iPads.

Also attached is a Power Point presentation that Greg would like to use during the briefing with the Secretary.

I wasn't sure if FWP (i.e., Todd Willens or anyone in that office) wanted to review these materials, but you are more than welcome to. I was working off of a COB deadline of today to FWP, but then heard from Christine that she needed this by 3:00p.m. today.

Please let us know if you have any questions or need any additional information.

Thanks,

Michael

--

Michael Gale

Deputy Chief of Staff (Acting), Director's Office  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

202.208.4923 (office)  
571.982.2158 (cell)

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

**From:** **Christine Bauserman (via Google Docs)** <[drive-shares-noreply@google.com](mailto:drive-shares-noreply@google.com)>  
**Date:** Thu, Aug 31, 2017 at 3:19 PM  
**Subject:** 0907 Predators - Invitation to edit  
**To:** [michael\\_gale@fws.gov](mailto:michael_gale@fws.gov)

[Christine Bauserman](#) has invited you to **edit** the following document:



## 0907 Predators

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You have access

[Open in Docs](#)

Google Docs: Create and edit documents online.

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

You have received this email because someone shared a document with you from Google Docs.





# Predators Managed Under the ESA



Greg Sheehan  
Principal Deputy Director  
USFWS











# Lion

(formerly the African lion)

- On December 23, 2015, FWS listed two subspecies of lions in Africa under the ESA: *Panthera leo leo*, located in India and western and central Africa, were listed as endangered species and *Panthera leo melanochaita*, located in eastern and southern Africa, were listed as a threatened species with a 4(d) rule.
- In August 2017, FWS allowed take of wild-managed lion in South Africa.
- FWS is working on findings in Zimbabwe, Namibia, and other countries.



Photo Credit: William Warby



September 4, 2017

**INFORMATION MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY**

**FROM:** Greg Sheehan, Principal Deputy Director, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

**PHONE:** (202) 208-4545

**SUBJECT:** Predators Managed under the Endangered Species Act (ESA)

**I. BACKGROUND**

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) is entrusted with the conservation and management of several large predatory species under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). In this document, the Service outlines the current status and issues for a number of these high-profile species.

**II. DISCUSSION**

Nonresponsive Records

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**Lion**

On December 23, 2015, the Service listed two subspecies of lions in Africa under the ESA, *Panthera leo leo*, located in India and western and central Africa, was listed as endangered species and *Panthera leo melanochaita*, located in eastern and southern Africa, was listed as a threatened species. As part of the listing, the Service included a rule under section 4(d) of the ESA for *P. l. melanochaita*. The 4(d) rule provides conservation measures for this subspecies by establishing a permitting mechanism for the importation of sport hunted *P. l. melanochaita* trophies in order to ensure hunting contributes to the survival of the species in the wild. The effective date of the listing was January 22, 2016.

On October 19, 2016, the Service announced the determination that the import of sport-hunted wild and wild-managed lions taken in South Africa during 2016 would enhance the propagation

or survival of the species. On August 31, 2017, the Service announced a positive finding for wild and wild-managed lions taken in South Africa in 2017, 2018, and 2019. Although the agency is continuing to work with the South African government and organizations such as the South African Predator Association, the Service has not been able to make a positive finding for the import of captive-bred lion trophies for 2016 or 2017.

The Service has communicated with other range countries to obtain information on their lion populations and management regimes for lions. The Service is working to finalize our findings for lions taken in Mozambique, Namibia, Tanzania, Zimbabwe, and Zambia at this time. The Service is supporting projects that assist with vital operating costs for wildlife security and management in 7 of the 10 lionscapes, including in Kenya, Mozambique, South Africa, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Nonresponsive  
Records

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

**PREPARED BY:** Ecological Services and International Affairs, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

**From:** [Grace, Edward](#)  
**To:** [Stephen Guertin](#); [Jim Kurth](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: directors visit  
**Date:** Wednesday, November 15, 2017 11:33:33 AM

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Director's visit in Tanzania seems to be going well.

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

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @fws.gov>  
**Date:** Tue, Nov 14, 2017 at 11:23 PM  
**Subject:** directors visit  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @fws.gov>

all is going well

opening of event:

he sits at the head table as a distinguished guest and his opening remarks were well made outlining USG support for conservation and hunting being one of the tools.....working with all the country's on the deterrent findings for imports (elephants and lions hot topic)

side meetings occurred yesterday with the TZ Hunting Association (guides and outfitters) lots of concerns if US does not open imports of elephants and lions then the outfitters will be destroyed since their clients are mainly US. Concerns were voiced regarding the lack of communication with GoT and US on this issue, and that GoT has to much turn over in high level staff that causes uncertainty.

Response from FWS was that the Hunters Association needs to hve better communication with GoT and FWS would try and assist with that link but US can not have any influence on the change of staff and the frequency...that is a GoT issue.

Today Wednesday Nov 15....we will have a meeting with Permanent Secretary of MNRT, General Milanzi and Robert Mande, Acting Director of Wildlife. will report to you on this once we finish.

I brought Greg to a Cultural Center upon his request to purchase gifts...spent a good 2 hours shopping...provided advice not to buy wood carvings since it is sometimes protected woods.....he took advice. though he purchased to Maisa swords...we will see if he gets those home.

not many questions about law enforcement...very few on Attache program...he is very busy with folks on the hunting side and is doing well with questions and answers.

we will be getting help to have him go back through VIP tonight.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Regional Wildlife Law Enforcement Attaché**

United States Embassy -- Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Office of Law Enforcement

Office: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Mobile: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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Email:

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [@fws.gov](mailto:(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)@fws.gov)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [@state.gov](mailto:(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)@state.gov)

JWICS: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [@doi.id.ic.gov](mailto:(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)@doi.id.ic.gov)

--

Edward Grace

Acting Assistant Director

Office of Law Enforcement

United States Fish and Wildlife Service

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**From:** [Maureen Foster](#)  
**To:** [Greg J. Sheehan@fws.gov](mailto:Greg.J.Sheehan@fws.gov); [Kurth Jim](#); [Morris Charisa](#); [Stephen Guertin@fws.gov](mailto:Stephen.Guertin@fws.gov)  
**Subject:** Fwd: FWS Weekly Report 2017-08-09 - Invitation to edit  
**Date:** Wednesday, August 9, 2017 2:40:45 PM

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See questions below.

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:** "Skipwith, Aurelia" <[aurelia\\_skipwith@ios.doi.gov](mailto:aurelia_skipwith@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Date:** August 9, 2017 at 1:58:39 PM EDT  
**To:** Maureen Foster <[maureen\\_foster@ios.doi.gov](mailto:maureen_foster@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Cc:** Wendy Fink <[wendy\\_r\\_fink@ios.doi.gov](mailto:wendy_r_fink@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Subject: Re: FWS Weekly Report 2017-08-09 - Invitation to edit**

Maureen,

Since FWS will authorize the import of lions from South Africa during 2017-2019, do we need to look into our regulations or our listing status/procedures of these species? Thanks.

In mid-August, FWS will announce that after reviewing updated information from South Africa, it will again authorize imports of wild and wild-managed lions from South Africa taken during 2017-2019. In 2016, FWS listed the lion in eastern and southern Africa as threatened under the ESA. FWS contacted each of the countries within this region that have conducted trophy lion hunts in the past few years to obtain information on the country's lion population, management of lions, and how sport-hunting has contributed to survival of the species. FWS then authorized the import of wild and wild managed lion sport-hunted trophies in 2016.

**Aurelia Skipwith**  
Deputy Assistant Secretary  
for Fish and Wildlife and Parks

U.S. Department of Interior  
1849 C Street, NW, Room 3148  
Washington, DC 20240  
(202) 208-5837

On Wed, Aug 9, 2017 at 12:19 PM, Maureen Foster (via Google Docs) <[drive-shares-noreply@google.com](mailto:drive-shares-noreply@google.com)> wrote:

Maureen Foster has invited you to **edit** the following document:

 [FWS Weekly Report 2017-08-09](#)

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Here is the FWS portion of the weekly. Please edit using the SUGGEST key. Thanks.

[Open in Docs](#)

Google Docs: Create and edit documents online.

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

You have received this email because someone shared a  
document with you from Google Docs.



**From:** [Carlson Bremer, Daphne](#)  
**To:** [Sheehan, Greg](#); [Jim Kurth](#); [Stephen Guertin](#); [Gloria Bell](#); [Morris, Charisa](#); [Craig Hoover](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Plesse prepare drafts for Meeting with African Ministers  
**Date:** Thursday, January 25, 2018 8:03:32 AM  
**Attachments:** [Revised Draft Agenda Panel Discussion and Roundtable on Wildlife Conservation in Africa 012418.docx](#)  
[Revised Event Proposal Roundtable on Wildlife Conservation in Africa 012417dd.docx](#)  
[Revised Invitation draft 012418ddkb.docx](#)

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Dear All,

Please see the attachments below (Greg, apologies if you cannot see them at the airport), fresh from revisions last night from Karen's team.

I will walk through the developments and ideas currently being discussed quickly to get your response and input for our next meeting at 9:30 this morning. Most importantly, we need to discuss the format of the "meeting" and how we need to guide it to make it productive.

Talk soon - I'll walk over to the FWS corridor for the meeting/call.

Daphne

**Daphne Carlson Bremer, DVM, MPVM, PhD**

Policy Specialist and Program Officer  
Combating Wildlife Trafficking Strategy and Partnerships  
US Fish & Wildlife Service, International Affairs  
5275 Leesburg Pike  
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803  
W: 703-358-2098

[daphne\\_carlsonbremer@fws.gov](mailto:daphne_carlsonbremer@fws.gov)

|

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Daphne Carlson Bremer, DVM, PhD  
Office of International Affairs  
Department of the Interior



## **PANEL DISCUSSION AND ROUNDTABLE ON WILDLIFE CONSERVATION IN AFRICA**

**February 5, 2018  
Washington D.C.**

### **AGENDA**

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- |  |              |
|--|--------------|
| 1. Welcome and Introduction<br>Greg Sheehan, Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)  | 5-10 minutes |
| 2. Panel Discussion<br>Facilitated by Craig Hoover, Chief, Division of Management Authority<br>International Affairs, FWS<br><i>[Topics and Panelists TBD-FWS]</i> | 60 minutes   |
| 3. Q & A<br>Facilitated by Craig Hoover, Chief, Division of Management Authority<br>International Affairs, FWS   | 30 minutes   |
| 4. Panel Discussion Summary<br>Greg Sheehan, Director, FWS   | 10 minutes   |
| 5. Roundtable with Secretary Zinke<br>ALL  | 30 minutes   |
| 6. Cocktail Reception with Secretary Zinke<br>ALL  | 30 minutes   |
-

# Event Proposal Information Form

\*Please complete this form and send to [scheduling@ios.doi.gov](mailto:scheduling@ios.doi.gov)

**Specific Request to the Secretary:** Meeting with various African government conservation officials and Ambassadors

**Title of the Event:** Roundtable on Wildlife Conservation in Africa

**Date & Time of Event:** February 5, 2018, TBD

**Location:** Secretary's office

**Point of Contact(s) (Name, Email, Phone for each):**

Department of the Interior POC: Karen Senhadji  
office: 202-208-5479  
e-mail: [Karen\\_senhadji@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Karen_senhadji@ios.doi.gov)

Foreign POC's TBD

**Briefly describe the event in detail, and the desired outcome of the Secretary's participation**[1]:

In the U.S., well-regulated hunting [DRD2] by state and federal governments is a long-established pillar of conservation for many species and their habitats, and this deep U.S. experience can be informative for other countries seeking to support conservation and gain benefits from their wildlife resources. Internationally, sport hunting provides conservation, wildlife law enforcement, and economic benefits to range countries. Representatives from African governments responsible for managing their respective wildlife resources will be attending an annual Safari Club International convention on international sport hunting in the U.S. January 31 - February 3, 2018. Their presence in the U.S. at this time provides an opportunity for the Secretary, joined by the Principal Deputy Director of the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, to convene a meeting in Washington, D.C. with them as well as the Ambassadors and other government officials from relevant African countries, to exchange experiences and insights on wildlife conservation and the role of sport hunting. The meeting will provide key African countries an opportunity to present their perspectives on conserving native wildlife, including the current role of sport hunting in conservation in their country and its potential for the -future.

**Audience (expected attendance and makeup of the attendees)**[BKL3]:

[4]

Angola

Ambassador Agostinho Tavares da Silva Neto, Ambassador of the Republic of Angola to the U.S.

Botswana

Ambassador David John Newman, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Botswana to the U.S.

Burkina Faso

Ambassador Seydou Kabore, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Burkina Faso to the U.S. and Mexico

Cameroon

H.E. Étoundi Essomba, Ambassador of the Republic of Cameroon to the U.S.

Central African Republic

H.E. Stanislas Moussa-Kembe, Ambassador of the Central African Republic to the U.S.

Republic of Congo

H.E. Serge Mombouli, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Congo to the U.S.

Ethiopia

H.E. Kassa Tekleberhan, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia to the U.S.

### Mozambique

H.E. Carlos dos Santos, Ambassador of the Republic of Mozambique to the U.S.

### Namibia

H.E. Mr. Martin Andjaba, Ambassador of the Republic of Namibia to the U.S.

### South Africa

H.E. Mzinwa Johannes Mahlangu, Ambassador of the Republic of South Africa to the U.S.

Mpho Tjiane, Deputy Director: CITES Policy Development and Implementation, Department of Environmental Affairs

Xola Mfeka, Department of Environmental Affairs

Riaan de Lange, Head of Professional Hunting, Mpumalanga Tourism and Parks Agency

Tseleng Mabunda, Department of Environmental Affairs

Fhumulani Tshamano, Department of Environmental Affairs[5]

### Tanzania

H.E. Mr. Wilson Masilingi, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United Republic of Tanzania to the U.S.

Dr. James Wakibara, Director General, Tanzania Wildlife Management Authority (TAWA)

Imani R. Nkuwi, Director, Tourism and Business Services, TAWA

Elisante Ombeni, Wildlife Officer, Trophy Hunting, TAWA

Frederick Ligate, Principal Wildlife Officer CITES Desk, Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism (TBD)

### Uganda

H.E. Mull S. Katende, Ambassador Designate of the Republic of Uganda to the U.S.

Dr. Akankwasah Barirega, Commissioner of Wildlife Conservation, Ministry of Tourism, Wildlife, and Antiquities

Dr. Andrew Seguya, Executive Director, Uganda Wildlife Authority

Dr. David Muduuli, Secretary, Wildlife Conservation and Management Association

Vickram Swaran Matama, Operations Manager, Wildlife Conservation and Management Association

### Zambia

Ambassador Dr. Ngosa Simbyakula, Ambassador of the Republic of Zambia to the U.S.

Paul Zyambo, Director, Department of National Parks and Wildlife (TBD)

Andrew Chomba Eldred, Assistant Director, Conservation and Management, Department of National Parks and Wildlife (TBD)

Jones Masonde, Principal Ecologist, Department of National Parks and Wildlife (TBD)

### Zimbabwe

H.E. Ammon M. Mutembwa, Ambassador of the Republic of Zimbabwe to the U.S.

Ambassador Grace Mutandiro, Permanent Secretary, Parks and Wildlife Management Authority

Fulton Mangwanya, Director General, Parks and Wildlife Management Authority

Rose Mandisodza-Chikerema, Chief Ecologist, Parks and Wildlife Management Authority

Power Mupunga, Camp Manager, Professional Hunter, Matetsi Complex

Charles Jonga, Director, CAMPFIRE

### DOI

Greg Sheehan, Principal Deputy Director of the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Others (TBD)[6]

**VIPs invited or known to be attending:** Ambassadors indicated above

### **What are the main messages that you are attempting to convey through this event (limit to 2-3)?**

- DOI supports the role of sport hunting as a tool for wildlife conservation both domestically and internationally, and is eager to share experiences and knowledge with other countries.
- DOI welcomes the perspective and experience of African nations who currently have sport hunting industries and those that wish to develop such industries in a legal and sustainable manner to promote the value of wildlife.
- DOI is and will continue to be a steadfast partner in efforts to conserve wildlife, protected areas, and other natural resources and to ensure it benefits local people and the U.S. public.

### **Remarks (if applicable)**

**Desired length of time for remarks:** N/A (A briefing memo with suggested talking points will be prepared)

**Are there any particular individuals, groups or activities you would like the Secretary to recognize in his remarks?** N/A

**Are there any specific comments you would like the Secretary to make?**

See above for main messages. Talking points to be provided in briefing memo.

**What is the desired format of his remarks (will he be sharing the stage, a panel, etc)?**

Informal discussion

**Communications**

**Is press expected to attend? If yes, are there any reporters confirmed to attend and cover the event? Who?** No

**For remarks and press (if applicable), please check all that apply:** N/A

- Podium available
- Microphone available

**Is there social media information for the event (hashtags, handles)?** No

**Logistics/Other**

**Please supply all pertinent background information for the event (draft agendas, existing websites, etc.):** N/A

**Do you require a bio of the Secretary?** No

**What is the attire of the event (business, casual)?** Business

**If the Secretary is not able to attend, is a surrogate desired? If yes, who specifically?** No

**Any additional notes or information?**

[Address]

Dear Ambassador \_\_\_\_\_:

On behalf of the United States Department of the Interior, I cordially invite you and the designated representative(s) of \_\_\_\_\_ *[insert country specific agency responsible for regulating wildlife]* to participate/attend (depending on the specific country) in/a panel discussion and roundtable on Wildlife Conservation in Africa. The event will take place in Washington D.C. on February 5, 2018, and will provide an opportunity for Ambassadors and managers of the wildlife estate to exchange information on and experiences in international wildlife conservation.

The United States is and will continue to be a steadfast partner in efforts to conserve wildlife, protected areas, and other natural resources, and to ensure that wildlife conservation efforts benefit local people and the public. One tool to achieve this goal is well-regulated and sustainable hunting. Domestically, state and federal hunting programs and regulations supports the conservation of many species and their habitats. Internationally, sport hunting can be used to support conservation, wildlife law enforcement, and economic development for local communities.

It is our responsibility to conserve and manage our respective natural resources for the benefit of our people. In the United States, we take pride in our natural heritage and go to great lengths to protect it for future generations. I believe this is an area where we can learn a great deal from one another. I look forward to the chance to discuss this important issue with you during the roundtable following the panel discussion. An agenda with addition details is attached. Please RSVP to \_\_\_\_\_ with the names and official titles of who will be attending and a point of contact we can follow up with to provide additional details by Thursday February 1, 2018. If you have any questions or need assistance, please do not hesitate to contact \_\_\_\_\_.

Sincerely,

\_\_\_\_\_

Secretary Ryan Zinke

Enclosures

**From:** [Nolin, Chris](#)  
**To:** [Stephen Guertin](#); [Jim Kurth](#)  
**Cc:** [Kashyap Patel](#); [Charisa Morris](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: QfRs  
**Date:** Thursday, June 14, 2018 5:35:24 PM  
**Attachments:** [Consolidated House QFR responses to edits.docx](#)

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Hi folks,

Attached are revised responses to the House QFRs based on direction given by Aurelia Skipwith to Gary Frazer earlier this week.

These need to be cleared. Thanks for your help.

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

**From:** **Frazer, Gary** <[gary\\_frazer@fws.gov](mailto:gary_frazer@fws.gov)>  
**Date:** Tue, Jun 12, 2018 at 1:07 PM  
**Subject:** Re: QfRs  
**To:** "Merkel, Rachel" <[rachel\\_merkel@fws.gov](mailto:rachel_merkel@fws.gov)>  
**Cc:** Lydia Collins <[lydia\\_collins@fws.gov](mailto:lydia_collins@fws.gov)>, Denise Sheehan <[Denise\\_Sheehan@fws.gov](mailto:Denise_Sheehan@fws.gov)>, Janine Velasco <[janine\\_velasco@fws.gov](mailto:janine_velasco@fws.gov)>, Jim Kurth <[Jim\\_Kurth@fws.gov](mailto:Jim_Kurth@fws.gov)>, Steve Guertin <[Stephen\\_Guertin@fws.gov](mailto:Stephen_Guertin@fws.gov)>, Martha Balis Larsen <[Martha\\_BalisLarsen@fws.gov](mailto:Martha_BalisLarsen@fws.gov)>

Rachel -- Jim Kurth got a note yesterday from DAS Aurelia Skipwith asking who could work with her to address some comments on the House Approps QFRs. Jim was kind enough to assign that to me, and I met with her this morning.

She conveyed that the DepSec had reviewed the QFRs from all the bureaus and had handed them all back (apparently to the A/S's) with direction to make them more reflective of Administration policy and Secretarial priorities. Aurelia then walked through them all with me and asked that we make some targeted changes, which I have reflected in the attached. She did not ask for or suggest any further review or revision to respond to the DepSec's direction.

AES had no changes needed for Calvert Q19-21 and only one minor change to Calvert 33. I've made that change to Calvert 33 in the attached, so we're done.

Her questions on McCollum Q13-20 (AIA) and McCollum 21-27 (AEA) are reflected in comment bubbles in the attached.

She asked for a specific edit to McCollum Q47-51 (AMB), which I made in the attached.

Jim and Steve are both out today, so in the interest of time would you work these with the affected program ADs and then run them back through Steve to Aurelia by COB Thursday?

Thanks. -- GDF

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

On Tue, Jun 12, 2018 at 11:51 AM, Merkel, Rachel <[rachel\\_merkel@fws.gov](mailto:rachel_merkel@fws.gov)> wrote:

Gary,

Per our conversation, attached are the most recent versions of the House QfRs.

Let me know how we can help.

Thanks,

Rachel Merkel  
Chief of Budget Formulation  
Division of Budget  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
703-358-2545

--

Chris Nolin  
Budget Officer  
US Fish & Wildlife Service  
703-358-2343 desk  
240-305-0490 cell  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Headquarters  
MS: BPHC  
5275 Leesburg Pike  
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803

## Habitat Conservation Plans

DOI is in control of a very effective force multiplier that facilitates infrastructure development in a way that saves time, money, and avoids litigation all the while meeting obligations under the Endangered Species Act, namely Multi Species Habitat Conservation Plans (HCPs).

**Calvert Q19:** How can DOI most effectively staff so as to expedite the approval and maximize the impact of HCPs?

**Response:** The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is placing a priority on providing technical assistance for large, multi-species HCPs over project-specific plans. In addition, through the 2016 Habitat Conservation Planning Handbook, the Service addresses how to streamline review processes and expedite approvals. The Service is also entering into agreements with applicants who are willing to provide funds for dedicated Service staff to specifically address the needs of their project and expedite the plan development and permitting process.

**Calvert Q20:** How can DOI best expand and expedite their planning and land acquisition grants?

**Response:** The Service is not requesting funding in the FY 2019 Budget request for HCP planning and land acquisition grants under the Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund, in order to support higher priorities. The Service will continue to provide technical assistance to States and landowners to expedite the approval and maximize the impacts of HCPs to the extent that resources permit.

**Calvert Q21:** How can DOI accommodate HCPs making necessary amendments to their plans without risking having to reopen their entire plan?

**Response:** The 2016 Habitat Conservation Planning Handbook (Chapter 17.4) provides specific guidance about HCP amendments. First, the guidance describes administrative changes that would be processed internally, would not require public notice and comment, and would therefore not reopen the plan. Second, the guidance makes clear that, when the scope of the amendment is such that it would require a *Federal Register* notice to seek public comment, the Service will limit public review to comments only on the proposed change and not reopen the entire HCP for revision.

## Endangered Species Act

**Calvert Q33:** I know you're well aware of State frustrations with implementation of the Endangered Species Act. We are beginning to see hints of a shift in the approach of the Fish and Wildlife Service under your leadership and with guidance from bipartisan members of this subcommittee. It is a shift towards a more collaborative ESA process with States treated as equal partners, as Congress intended.

We believe that recovery is a shared responsibility that does not default to the Fish and Wildlife Service. Although final decisions ultimately rest with the Service, nothing in law prohibits

States from being involved in the process. Increasing collaboration throughout all phases of ESA implementation is in everyone's best interest.

The subcommittee will continue to foster this collaboration in several ways: (1) by incentivizing increased State and non-governmental organization involvement and leadership through matching grants; and (2) by directing the Fish and Wildlife Service to focus on ESA actions that are inherently Federal—in other words, actions that only the Federal government can do. For instance, there are still 49 species awaiting a formal downlisting or delisting.

Do you agree with this approach, and will you work with us to help make implementation of the Endangered Species Act a more collaborative process?

**Response:** The Service encourages and appreciates active participation from the States and other partners in all parts of recovery, including developing plans, implementing actions, and monitoring species on the ground. Longstanding strong support for State involvement in ESA implementation was reflected in the recent update to the Service's Interagency Policy Regarding the Role of State Agencies in ESA Activities (81 FR 8663, February 22, 2016). More recently, the Principal Deputy Director issued guidance on January 16, 2018, directing that all Species Status Assessment teams invite participation by each affected State. The Service looks forward to working with the Committee to encourage greater collaboration with States, Tribes, non-governmental organizations, and landowners in implementation of the ESA.

### **African Elephant Sport Trophy-Hunting**

On November 17, 2017 the Fish and Wildlife Service published a notice in the Federal Register that killing African elephant trophy animals in Zimbabwe, between January 2016 and December 2018, will enhance the survival of the African elephant and permit import of body parts. The Obama Administration banned elephant trophy hunting imports from Zimbabwe arguing the agency did not have strong enough reason to believe that the country was properly regulating trophy hunting.

The Service made this policy change at the time Zimbabwe was in the middle of a military coup.

**McCollum Q13:** Why was reviewing the trophy import policy a priority?

**Response:** The Service is obligated under the ESA and its implementing regulations to process permit applications, including for the import of sport-hunted trophies. The Service's review of available information led to a negative enhancement finding under the ESA for elephants taken in Zimbabwe during 2014 and 2015. More recently, the available information led to a positive enhancement finding for elephants taken in 2016 (on or after January 21), 2017, and 2018. As a result of the political coup, we subsequently issued a supplemental finding that suspended the positive finding until such time that we have more clarity and certainty about governance with regard to elephant management in Zimbabwe. In response to the D.C. Circuit Court's opinion in *Safari Club International, et al. v. Zinke, et al.*, No. 16-5358 (D.C. Cir., Dec. 22, 2017) the Service has since rescinded all of these country-wide findings and will process permit applications on a case-by-case basis.

**McCollum Q14:** What new analysis and evidence did the Service use as the basis for its withdrawal?

**Response:** When the Service issued a positive enhancement finding for 2016 (on or after January 21), 2017, and 2018, it did not withdraw the previous negative enhancement finding under the ESA for elephants taken in Zimbabwe during 2014 and 2015. Rather, the Service issued a new finding covering a different time period. The Service received substantial new and additional information regarding elephant status and management in Zimbabwe, including the adoption and implementation of a National Elephant Management Plan. This information was detailed in the negative finding that was later supplemented to suspend the positive funding as a result of the political situation in Zimbabwe. As noted above, the findings have since been rescinded.

**McCollum Q15:** Were any outside groups consulted before the Service made this decision?

**Response:** The Service receives and considers information from a variety of sources. The Service did not formally seek public comment via the *Federal Register* or go through a formal rule-making process, which was the basis for the D.C. Circuit Court's opinion that the negative 2014 and 2015 findings for Zimbabwe were invalid. In response to the D.C. Circuit Court's opinion, the Service has since rescinded all of these country-wide findings and will process permit applications on a case-by-case basis.

**McCollum Q16:** President Trump in a television interview with Piers Morgan criticized resuming trophy imports from Zimbabwe and said he turned that order around, why wasn't the Administration informed about this withdrawal before it happened?

**Response:** The Service did not withdraw a finding; rather, it issued a new finding covering a different time period. All of these findings have since been rescinded in response to the D.C. Circuit Court's opinion in *Safari Club Int'l, et al. v. Zinke, et al.*, No. 16-5358 (D.C. Cir., Dec. 22, 2017).

**McCollum Q17:** Why was the turmoil within Zimbabwe not considered as a factor in favor of keeping the ban in place? Who approved moving forward on the release of the withdrawal at that time?

**Response:** Enhancement findings under the ESA are made by the Fish and Wildlife Service's Division of Management Authority. The actions within Zimbabwe during November 2017 were taken into consideration, and the Division of Management Authority issued a supplemental finding on November 24, 2017 suspending its positive enhancement finding for elephants taken on or after November 14, 2017, until clarity and certainty regarding governance in Zimbabwe could be verified. As noted above, all of these findings have since been rescinded in response to the D.C. Circuit Court's opinion in *Safari Club Int'l, et al. v. Zinke, et al.*, No. 16-5358 (D.C. Cir., Dec. 22, 2017).

**McCollum Q18:** On March 1, 2018 the Principal Deputy Director of the Fish and Wildlife Service issued a memorandum withdrawing, effective immediately, the 2014 and 2015 Endangered Species Act (ESA) enhancement findings for the head, tusks, and other body parts of hunted African elephants from Zimbabwe, and additionally withdrew ESA enhancement and CITES non-detriment findings for lions, elephants and bontetok in a number of other countries. Interior will now review requests on a case-by-case basis.

Discuss the basis for this decision when data on declining elephant populations carried on the Service website states, “Across Africa, an estimated 100,000 elephants were killed for their ivory between 2010 and 2012, and the continent-wide estimate for all elephants has now been revised downward to 420,000. Despite some progress in halting and stabilizing the resurgence of elephant poaching since 2011, in some areas, Africa's elephants are still being poached at higher rates than they can naturally reproduce.”

**Response:** The Service’s positive enhancement finding for Zimbabwe for 2016 (on or after January 21), 2017, and 2018, was based on substantial new and additional information regarding elephant status and management in Zimbabwe, including the adoption and implementation of a National Elephant Management Plan. This information addressed concerns raised in the previous negative finding for 2014 and 2015. However, as noted above, these findings have now been rescinded. The Service’s decision to withdraw these and all other country-wide ESA enhancement findings was solely in response to the D.C. Circuit Court's opinion in *Safari Club Int'l, et al. v. Zinke, et al.*, No. 16-5358 (D.C. Cir., Dec. 22, 2017).

**McCollum Q19:** Discuss the process in place to review these requests, what office/personnel are responsible for making these determinations and what criteria are they using? How are conservation efforts being analyzed and considered? What are your estimates of the additional cost and time that will be spent examining and processing requests for the import of animal parts as trophies under the new policy of case-by-case review? Will the Service be tracking how many applications are filed and authorized that would have previously been denied under the ESA enhancement or CITES non-detriment findings withdrawn in the March 1 memorandum?

**Response:** The Service’s Division of Management Authority processes thousands of permit applications each year, and most of these applications are reviewed on a case-by-case basis. With regard to those applications previously covered by a country-wide enhancement finding, the Service intends to use the information cited in these findings and contained in its files as appropriate, in addition to the information it receives and has available when it receives each application, to evaluate individual permit applications.

The Service is continuing to monitor the status and management of these species in their range countries. When the Service processes these permit applications, the Service will do so on an individual basis, including making ESA enhancement determinations and CITES non-detriment determinations when required, for each application. The Service will grant or deny permits to import a sport-hunted trophy on a case-by-case basis pursuant to its authorities under the ESA and CITES. As part of the permitting process, the Service reviews each application received for import of such trophies and evaluates the information provided in the application as well as other information available to the Service as to the status of and management program for the species or population to ensure that the program is promoting the conservation of the species. Each application must also meet all other applicable permitting requirements before it may be authorized.

The Service does not have an estimate of the additional cost or time required to process these applications on a case-by-case basis, at least in part because the Service is not able to determine the number of applications it will receive in the future or the circumstances relevant to the required findings that will be included in those applications. The number of applications and the specific facts associated with them drive the time required to process permit applications. The

primary costs associated with application processing involve the time it takes the Service employees to review relevant information and write findings. However, as noted above, this is not a major change in practices. Most of the applications that the Service processes involve findings made on a case-by-case basis; going forward, trophy applications will be added those case-by-case findings. We will maintain records of each application, including each permit issued or application denied.

**McCollum Q20:** How are you ensuring there is a clear connection between money that will be spent for these hunting trips and the conservation and protection of these iconic animals?

**Response:** Revenue generation is just one aspect the Service may consider in determining whether the import of a sport-hunted trophy enhances the survival of the species in the wild. In evaluating whether financial resources are being used for conservation, including protected area management, anti-poaching patrols, support to local communities, etc., we seek information from the governments directly about their wildlife management regimes and how financial resources generated from hunting support those conservation programs. We also consider published research and reports and relevant information from organizations and individuals.

### **Advisory Board: International Wildlife Conservation Council**

On November 8, 2017, Secretary Zinke announced the creation of a 16-member International Wildlife Conservation Council to provide advice and recommendations on the benefits that international recreational hunting has on foreign wildlife and habitat conservation, anti-poaching and illegal wildlife trafficking programs.

**McCollum Q21:** You have outlined that one of their duties will be to recommend removal of barriers to the importation of legally hunted wildlife. Does this include African elephants, lions and rhinos?

**Response:** Yes, the Council may consider importation barriers to legally hunted wildlife. In order to allow importation of legally hunted wildlife the Service must first make a finding that doing so enhances the survival of the species.

**McCollum Q22:** How have you ensured diverse perspectives are represented on this board?

**Response:** IWCC membership was selected to ensure it is fairly balanced in terms of the points of view represented and the functions to be performed as outlined in its charter.

**McCollum Q23:** Please outline the qualifications of these members:

- Of the 16 members, how many are sport hunters?
- How many members have scientific expertise in conservation?
- How many members have direct experience with the management of successful conservation programs?
- How many members do not have any financial or commercial stake in international trophy hunting?

**Response:** Membership qualifications are outlined in the IWCC Charter. Specifically, IWCC members are senior-level representatives of their organizations and/or have the ability to represent their designated constituency group: wildlife and habitat conservation/management organizations; U.S. hunters actively engaged in international and/or domestic hunting conservation; the firearms or ammunition manufacturing industry; archery and/or hunting sports industry; and tourism, outfitter, and/or guide industries related to international hunting. Membership of the Council can be found at <https://www.facadatabase.gov/committee/members.aspx?cid=2636>

**McCollum Q24:** Do you see any conflict with having members from Safari Club International when they contributed funds to your campaign for Congress?

**Response:** No, the Department of the Interior considers the opinions of many stakeholders as well as the best scientific information in developing policy and regulations. While the IWCC provides advice and recommendations, the authority to create the policy and regulations rests with the Secretary of the Interior and/or the Director of the Fish and Wildlife Service. Under CITES, an import permit for an endangered species may only be issued if the import will be for purposes which are not detrimental to the survival of the species involved and the recipient of a living specimen is suitably equipped to house and care for it. Additionally, the Fish and Wildlife Service must be satisfied that the specimen is not to be used for primarily commercial purposes. Under the Endangered Species Act, the Fish and Wildlife Service is only allowed to grant import permits for otherwise prohibited imports and exports if it finds the import will “enhance the propagation or survival” of the affected species.

**McCollum Q25:** In 2014, the Safari Club International and the National Rifle Association filed suit to challenge the Zimbabwe sport trophy-hunting ban despite statistics showing that in 2013 the Zimbabwe elephant population was 47,366 down from 84,416 in 2007? Does that give you any pause about their ability to objectively view facts and help make decisions? Are there any connections between these members and the Trump family?

**Response:** The Council was created and its members selected in order to advise the Secretary on a range of foreign wildlife and habitat conservation topics including developing recommendations to enhance anti-poaching and illegal wildlife trafficking programs. While the IWCC provides advice and recommendations, the authority to create the policy and regulations rests with the Secretary of the Interior and/or the Director of the Fish and Wildlife Service.

**McCollum Q26:** What is the status of lion trophy hunting imports from Zimbabwe and Zambia?

**Response:** On March 1, 2018, the Fish and Wildlife Service issued a memo in response to the D.C. Circuit Court's opinion in *Safari Club Int'l, et al. v. Zinke, et al.*, No. 16-5358 (D.C. Cir., Dec. 22, 2017). In that memo, the Service withdrew, effective immediately, all country-wide findings, including those for lions in Zimbabwe and Zambia. These findings are no longer effective for making individual permit determinations for imports of sport-hunted lions. However, the Service intends to use the information cited in these findings and contained in its files as appropriate, in addition to the information it receives and has available when it receives each application, to evaluate individual permit applications. The Service intends to process permit applications on an individual basis, including making ESA enhancement determinations, and CITES non-detriment determinations when required, for each application. The Service

intends to grant or deny permits to import a sport-hunted trophy on a case-by-case basis pursuant to its authorities under the ESA and CITES. As part of the permitting process, the Service reviews each application received for import of such trophies and evaluates the information provided in the application as well as other information available to the Service as to the status of and management program for the species or population to ensure that the program is promoting the conservation of the species. Each application must also meet all other applicable permitting requirements before it may be authorized.

**McCollum Q27:** What current litigation exists on these rulings?

**Response:** In addition to the SCI/NRA litigation noted above, there are two other cases that relate to these rulings (*Center for Biological Diversity, et al. v. Zinke, et al.*, No. 17-2504 (D.D.C.) and *Friends of Animals, et al. v. Zinke, et al.*, No. 17-2530 (D.D.C.)). The first case challenges the 2017 enhancement findings for elephants and lions from Zimbabwe and, through an amended complaint, the March 1, 2018, memo. The second case challenges the 2017 enhancement finding for elephants from Zimbabwe, while its second amended complaint proposes to also challenge the March 1, 2018, memo.

### **Solicitor's Opinion on Migratory Bird Treaty Act**

On December 22, 2017, the Principal Deputy Solicitor Exercising the Authority of the Solicitor Pursuant to Secretary's Order 3345, issued a memorandum stating the Migratory Bird Treaty Act does not prohibit incidental take. Shortly after this opinion was issued, seventeen former top Interior Department officials, both Republicans and Democrats, protested this "ill-conceived" new legal opinion that states the Migratory Bird Treaty Act protections only cover intentional acts.

**McCollum Q47:** What guidance have you given to the Fish and Wildlife Service on how to enforce this new legal opinion?

- Has instruction been given to the Fish and Wildlife Service about changing the Service manual?

**Response:** In February 2018, as a result of the new interpretation of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) removed the manual chapter relating to incidental take of migratory birds, "Incidental Take Prohibited Under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act" (720 FW3). On April 11, 2018, the Service issued general guidance to its Program and Regional Directors on implementation of the December 2017 Department of the Interior Solicitor's Office Opinion, M-37050. The guidance states that we will continue to fully implement the prohibitions on incidental take as defined under the Endangered Species Act and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act. It also states that we will continue to work with any partner who is interested in voluntarily reducing impacts to migratory birds and their habitats and provide recommendations for reducing these impacts through reviews under other authorities, such as NEPA and the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act. It directs that the Service will not withhold permits or requests or require mitigation based on incidental impacts under the MBTA. We will ensure any comments, recommendations or requirements we make are not based on –

and do not imply - authority under the MBTA to regulate incidental take. Further policy and instruction may follow, as appropriate.

**McCollum Q48:** What will you do in the event of another Deepwater Horizon spill? Would you consider that to be “intentional” take or “accidental” take?

- In the Deepwater Horizon spill 1 million migratory birds were injured or killed. If the Department will no longer seek compensation for spills like Deepwater Horizon, how will you mitigate for such devastating impacts on migratory birds?
- Why don't you feel this new legal opinion favors the oil industry over the protection of migratory birds?

**Response:** The new M-Opinion concludes that the MBTA does not apply when the intent and underlying purpose is not to take birds. This means that if an oil or hazardous chemical release occurs, protections of publicly held natural resources, including migratory birds, under other authorities (such as the Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Act, Oil Pollution Act, and Clean Water Act) will still apply in these situations. Parties responsible for these incidents will still be held accountable under the incidental take prohibitions in the Endangered Species Act and Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act, as well as any applicable state laws. The M-Opinion applies to all industries equally, and the Department will continue to work with our industry partners to minimize impacts on migratory birds, whenever proponents or operators are willing to work with us toward this goal.

**McCollum Q49:** This legal opinion is contrary to the long-standing interpretation that has been in place since the 1970's.

- What standards have changed to justify reversing the long-standing interpretation?
- What analysis has been done on the impact of this opinion on bird populations?
- Why did the Department think the previous approach which enforced the Migratory Bird Treaty Act fairly in balancing the goals of economic progress with the impact of that progress on bird populations was not reasonable?

**Response:** U.S. courts are split on the question of whether or not the MBTA prohibits incidental take. The most recent Departmental review and analysis of case law, conducted by the Principle Deputy Solicitor and included in M-37050, describes the rationale used to determine that the MBTA does not prohibit incidental take.

**McCollum Q50:** On January 10, 2018, conservation professionals who all served in the Department of the Interior from 1971 to 2017, under Republican and Democratic administrations, wrote to Secretary Zinke to express concern about what they determined was “an ill-conceived opinion” and asked for its suspension.

- Why has the Department chosen to ignore this request to not prohibit the unregulated killing of birds?

**Response:** While some may disagree with M-37050, and how the MBTA was implemented and enforced in the past, the fact remains that U.S. courts are split on this question.

**McCollum Q51:** What incentive will industry now have to cover crude oil waste pits with nets to keep birds from landing in them if this opinion says there will be no action taken against them since they did not “intend” to kill birds?

**Response:** The Department will continue to offer technical expertise to willing industry and other partners to develop and/or apply best management practices to minimize the impacts of industrial and other human activities on migratory birds, and to comply with applicable state laws.

**From:** [Wainman, Barbara](#)  
**To:** [Greg Sheehan](#); [Steve Guertin](#); [Martin Kodis](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Time to begin preparation for FY 2019 budget hearings ...  
**Date:** Thursday, February 1, 2018 3:17:26 PM

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**Other Issues:**

Trophy hunting

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----- Forwarded message -----  
From: **Huggler, Matthew** <[matthew\\_huggler@fws.gov](mailto:matthew_huggler@fws.gov)>  
Date: Mon, Mar 12, 2018 at 2:36 PM  
Subject: Re:  
To: "Wainman, Barbara" <[barbara\\_wainman@fws.gov](mailto:barbara_wainman@fws.gov)>  
Cc: Chris Tollefson <[chris\\_tollefson@fws.gov](mailto:chris_tollefson@fws.gov)>

Attached is an updated version based on Barbara's feedback.

A few notes:

Nonresponsive Records  
[Redacted]

-- I made a new sport-hunted trophy section; however I think (b) (5) DPP [Redacted]  
(which is why I did not include it originally).

Nonresponsive Records  
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Thanks,  
  
- Matt

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Matthew C. Huggler  
Deputy Assistant Director - External Affairs  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
5275 Leesburg Pike, MS: EA  
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803  
(703) 358-2243 (office)  
(202) 460-8402 (cell)

Nonresponsive Records [Redacted]

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**U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
83<sup>rd</sup> North American Wildlife and Natural Resource Conference  
March 26-30, 2018**

**Hot Issue Talking Points**

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**International Sport-Hunted Trophies**

- FWS announced recently that it will now consider all trophy imports from African nations on a case-by-case basis.
- Appointed a new acting AD (Eric Alvarez) to implement changes to our international grants/permit programs.

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**From:** [Arroyo, Bryan](#)  
**To:** [Jim Kurth](#); [Stephen Guertin](#); [Morris Charisa](#)  
**Subject:** Hot topics list  
**Date:** Friday, February 10, 2017 10:15:03 AM

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Good morning folks, probably more than you need but these are the main issues we have in International Affairs for the next 30 days or so.

- Nonresponsive Records [Redacted]
- [Redacted]
- ESA Lion Findings: The Service is likely to make one or more country-level findings regarding the African lion, which is listed under the ESA as Threatened. We are conducting these evaluations at the country level. We have already determined that South Africa's hunting program for wild lions meets our requirements, but that hunting of captive lions does not. Several other countries, including Tanzania, Zambia, and Mozambique, are currently under review.

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**From:** [Gale, Michael](#)  
**To:** [Aurelia Skipwith](#); [Foster, Maureen](#); [Robbins, Tasha](#); [Greg Sheehan](#)  
**Cc:** [Roslyn Sellars](#); [Thomas Irwin](#); [Charisa Morris](#); [Jim Kurth](#); [Stephen Guertin](#); [Gloria Bell](#); [Hoover, Craig](#)  
**Subject:** Info Memo for John Scanlon, Secretary General of CITES Visit  
**Date:** Tuesday, September 19, 2017 11:06:13 AM  
**Attachments:** [InfMemo.CITES.Scanlon visit Sept 2017.doc](#)

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Hello FWP,

Attached is an information memo for the meeting with John Scanlon, Secretary General of CITES, scheduled for September 20, 1-2pm, Room 3038.

With Todd and Greg both on travel, my understanding is that Aurelia will be sitting in for FWP and Craig Hoover from FWS International Affairs for Greg, who I've included for situational awareness.

Please let us know if you need any additional information for this meeting.

cheers,

Michael

--

Michael Gale

Deputy Chief of Staff (Acting), Director's Office  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

202.208.4923 (office)  
571.982.2158 (cell)

September 18, 2017

## **INFORMATION MEMORANDUM**

**FROM:** Gloria Bell, Acting Assistant Director, International Affairs

**SUBJECT:** Meeting with John Scanlon, Secretary General of CITES,  
scheduled for September 20, 1-2pm, Room 3038

### **I. INTRODUCTION**

John Scanlon, Secretary-General of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), is in the United States to participate in a World Economic Forum event on sustainable development. This meeting is an opportunity to discuss recent developments in combating wildlife trafficking and implementing CITES tree species listings, and to hear early insights from Scanlon on issues to be discussed at the 69<sup>th</sup> Standing Committee meeting (SC69) at the end of November. CITES is an international agreement among governments. Its purpose is to ensure that international trade in wildlife and plants does not threaten the survival of the species. He will also meet with the State Department, and the State Department will be represented at this meeting as well.

### **II. BACKGROUND**

The CITES Secretariat, located in Geneva, Switzerland, administers CITES. Permanent committees (Standing, Animals, and Plants Committees) provide technical and scientific support to the Parties and meet between meetings of the Conference of the Parties (CoPs), which meet approximately every three years. Each Party designates at least one Management and Scientific Authority to process permits, make legal and scientific findings, and monitor trade. In the United States, CITES is implemented through the Endangered Species Act (Act). Section 8A of the Act designates the Secretary of the Interior as the U.S. Management Authority and Scientific Authority for CITES. These authorities have been delegated to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

During his tenure as Secretary-General, John Scanlon has focused on raising the profile of CITES in other international fora and has prioritized the fight against wildlife trafficking. He has been actively involved in the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime (ICWC), a collaborative effort of five intergovernmental organizations (the CITES Secretariat, INTERPOL, the U.N. Office on Drugs and Crime, the World Bank, and the World Customs Organization) working to support national wildlife law enforcement agencies and networks that act in defense of natural resources.

### **U.S. contribution to the CITES Trust Fund**

The U.S. voluntary contribution to the CITES Trust Fund is provided by the State Department. The most recent contribution was approximately \$1.5 million, which

exceeded the expected contribution by approximately \$139,000. We expect Scanlon to thank us for this contribution and to begin discussions about how we would like to commit the additional funds. We work with the Secretariat and the State Department to identify U.S. priority work for these funds.

### **Preparations for the 69<sup>th</sup> and 70<sup>th</sup> Meetings of the CITES Standing Committee (SC69 and SC70) and the 18<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP18)**

SC69 is scheduled for November 27-December 1 in Geneva, Switzerland. A provisional agenda has been posted, and documents will be posted shortly after the September 28 document submission deadline. The Standing Committee's workload continues to increase with each meeting. The 70<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Standing Committee will be hosted by the Russian Federation in Sochi in October 2018. Sri Lanka will host CoP18 in 2019. We expect Scanlon to provide updates on the preparations for these meetings.

### **Common interpretation of annotation #15, and preparations for the meeting on 21 September**

At CoP17, held in September/October 2016, the entire genus *Dalbergia* (except for the Appendix-I listed Brazilian rosewood (*Dalbergia nigra*), which was listed in 1992), three bubinga species (*Guibourtia demeusei*, *Guibourtia pellegriniana*, and *Guibourtia tessmannii*), and kosso or African rosewood (*Pterocarpus erinaceus*) were listed in Appendix II. The listing covers several hundred species, several of which are used in musical instruments and a wide variety of other products.

The *Dalbergia* spp. and bubinga listings are annotated to describe which parts and derivatives are covered under CITES, and are covered under Annotation #15, a complex annotation that covers most commodities in trade. As a result, the United States has been conducting extensive outreach and education about the listings and the permitting requirements with stakeholders, other agencies, and other CITES Parties. We have seen a near doubling of overall permits issued as a result of these listings.

We are working through the CITES Plants Committee and Standing Committee to ensure that administrative burdens are minimized and that CITES Parties are implementing the new listings in a consistent manner. We are also considering how we might narrow the scope of the listing at CoP18 such that it more narrowly focuses on those commodities that are exported from the timber range countries. On Thursday, we will host several industry groups and businesses affected by the listing, at Scanlon's request, so that they can share their concerns and suggestions with the Secretariat General.

### **Host institution (UNEP) and host country (Switzerland) issues**

The U.S. has been very active in discussions at CITES meetings about reviewing the host country (Switzerland) and host institution (UNEP) arrangements for the CITES Secretariat to ensure that CITES is receiving efficient and cost-effective administrative support. This has been a contentious issue—both Switzerland and the UNEP Executive

Director have resisted Parties' efforts to evaluate alternative hosting options. At CoP17, Parties gave the host country an additional year to discuss with the Secretariat further opportunities to strengthen its support to CITES. The Standing Committee will decide at SC69 whether or not to explore alternative host country arrangements. Scanlon will likely provide an update on the upcoming Standing Committee discussions on this issue.

### **UNGA Resolution on Tackling Illicit Wildlife Trafficking**

On September 12, 2017, a far-reaching Resolution on tackling wildlife trafficking was adopted by the 193 Member States of the United Nations at the final meeting of the 71<sup>st</sup> session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA). The resolution reinforces the focus on key areas in the fight against trafficking in wildlife, including enhanced national legislation, supporting sustainable livelihoods, stronger law enforcement, countering corruption, deploying information technologies and undertaking well-targeted demand reduction efforts. This is the second such UNGA resolution, and it largely aligns with and draws reference to CITES resolutions, decisions and actions related to combating wildlife trafficking. The Department of State led U.S. efforts with regard to the resolution and the United States supported the final product.

### **World Wildlife Day 2018**

The CITES Secretariat recently announced that protecting big cats will be the theme for World Wildlife Day 2018. CITES and the Jackson Hole Film Festival may be partnering on a "Big Cats" film competition, which would be planned for release around World Wildlife Day 2018. This theme may be an opportunity to promote sustainable use as a conservation tool, such as through well-managed sport hunting of lions.

### **Late Reservations to CITES listings**

The CITES text states that reservations to amendments to Appendices I and II may be entered up to 90 days after the meeting at which they were adopted. On January 26, the Secretariat issued a notification about the reservations received following CoP17. Four countries submitted reservations after the 90-day deadline, but the Depositary Government (the Government of Switzerland) will accept those reservations if no Party objects. The United States and the EU objected, and consequently the late reservations were not accepted. For future actions, the Secretariat believes any reservation should be rejected if submitted after 90 days while the Depositary Government feels reservations should be accepted unless any Party objects to them. This issue is challenging: from a policy perspective the U.S. is generally opposed to reservations because we believe that they undermine the effectiveness of CITES listings. However, we want to maintain the flexibility in other fora to have our reservations accepted in the event that we miss a deadline. We will consult through our U.S. interagency process to determine a tentative U.S. negotiating position for this issue if it is to be discussed at SC70.

**PREPARED BY:** Craig Hoover, Chief, Division of Management Authority,  
International Affairs, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

**From:** [Morris, Charisa](#)  
**To:** [Downey Magallanes](#)  
**Cc:** [Greg Sheehan](#); [Stephen Guertin](#); [Jim Kurth](#); [Kashif Askari](#); [Zachariah Gambill](#); [Larrabee, Jason](#); [Aurelia Skipwith](#); [Foster, Maureen](#); [Wendy Fink](#)  
**Subject:** Information Memo re: Secretarial Meeting with African Conservation Ministries' on Trophy Imports  
**Date:** Friday, January 19, 2018 1:59:14 PM  
**Attachments:** [FWS African Ministries Memo 1.19.18.docx](#)

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Good afternoon, Downey-

Please see the attached information memo, as requested, and let me know if you need any additional information.

Thanks!  
Charisa

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[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



**United States Department of the Interior**  
Washington, D.C. 20240  
**INFORMATION MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY**

**DATE:** 1/19/18  
**FROM:** Greg Sheehan, Principal Deputy Director, US Fish and Wildlife Service  
**SUBJECT:** Secretarial Meeting with African Conservation Ministries' on Trophy Imports

---

**I. INTRODUCTION:**

In preparation for the potential Secretarial meeting with African Conservation Ministries on imports of sport-hunted trophies, the following memo summarizes the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service's relationship and historical findings with Namibia, Tanzania, Mozambique, Zambia, Zimbabwe and South Africa and Uganda.

Safari Club International (SCI) indicated that these countries may be interested in meeting with the Secretary at the SCI Convention in Las Vegas, Feb. 3, 2018. The seniority of current attendees from these countries widely varies.

**II. ISSUE BACKGROUND:**

Sport hunting is an effective conservation tool for countries with stable, well-regulated population management that enhance the survival of species in the wild. Several African countries have made significant strides in managing regulated sports hunting, including collecting well researched population data on sports hunted species, including, but not limited to, lion, rhino and elephant.

However, other countries, due to issues of corruption and/or other issues of governance, have yet to develop conservation plans robust enough to ensure that the import of trophies would be compliant with U.S. law. In these instances, the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service has not been able to issue authorization for imports, but continues to work with these countries to address ongoing issues.

**III. ANALYSIS AND POSITIONS OF INTERESTED PARTIES:**

**Namibia:** Namibia is an excellent demonstration of conservation management and responsible sport hunting programs. Considered the hallmark example, Namibia's wildlife sector is highly transparent and well-regarded. Due to aridity, Namibia has very little suitable habitat for elephants, but has shown recent increases to 22,754 elephants. Namibia has also experienced recent rhino poaching, but remains the second most numerous black rhino country and has been very proactive in responding to and reversing the crisis. The hunting industry and government regulators are, in general, operating to a high standard, and having pioneered innovative programs to return revenue to local residents who harbor wildlife on their communal land. The Service's relationship with the Ministry of Environment and Tourism (MET) is robust and open to enhanced recreational opportunities.

The Service has authorized the import of elephant trophies and a limited number of black rhino trophies that were taken under very specific conditions.

**Tanzania:** While one of the most popular destinations for sport hunting, Tanzania has experienced a sharp decline in accountability regarding the management of wildlife populations. Many issues stem from corruption, and the issuance of illegal permits for unrecorded sport hunts.

For many years, Tanzania had the second largest population of elephants in Africa, but the most recent survey data indicate that Tanzania has lost more than 63% of its elephants in ten years (2006-2015). The country has vast areas set aside for hunting or photographic tourism but unrelenting poaching pressure, corruption, and conflict with people have resulted in depletion. Quotas reports for hunting of these species in country remain ambiguous. However, by the Tanzania Government's own estimates, the famous elephant hunting destination, Selous Game Reserve, dropped from 80,000 elephants to 13,084 in that period. Tanzania's rhinos have collapsed from thousands of animals to only 130 surviving individuals. Although Tanzania has signed the Elephant Protection Initiative, Tanzania has refused to allow an independent audit and inventory of its ivory stockpile – believed to be the biggest in the world with 132 tons of ivory.

The decline in accountability dates back to 2008. Up until 2013, the Service was able to maintain a positive finding for elephant trophy imports from the country. However, Since 2014, the Service has been unable to authorize imports. The US Government and other multilateral donors have attempted to support Tanzania to halt this decline and protect the remaining wildlife, thus far with unimpressive results. That said, the Service remains committed to working with the country's leadership to address persistent issues of corruption and management.

**Mozambique:** Emerging from decades of civil war, the governance of Mozambique remains in flux.

Mozambique has been identified by CITES as a country of concern for uncontrolled ivory and rhino horn trade. The USFWS was petitioned to determine if Mozambique is compromising existing treaties, through a Pelly petition, and is currently evaluating the situation. Elephants in Mozambique are in alarming decline, with recent reports that the primary hunting destination, Niassa Reserve, has only 2,000 elephants left, down from 11,000 a few years ago. Rhinos have been hunted to extinction, and Mozambique is heavily implicated in the trafficking of poached rhino horn out of South Africa to black markets in Asia. The wildlife sector is challenged with large human settlements inside of all of Mozambique's national parks, and lack of resources and capacity in the ministry, and corruption.

Notwithstanding this, the country has taken steps and made improvements in its management structures. But thus far, for the reasons above, the Service has been unable to authorize imports for sport hunting from the country. The Service remains committed to exploring opportunities with the country and hopes to gain a better understanding of its

government structure as the country continues to become more stable so these issues can be addressed.

**South Africa:** The Service has a good relationship with the Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) which oversees sport hunting in the country. South Africa has an unusual governance structure, in that the wildlife on privately held property is owned by the property owners, and not by the government.

Before improving its wildlife management structures, South Africa eliminated most of its elephants in the early 1900s. The remaining 18,841 elephants are stable, however. Many elephants are under private ownership, on fenced game farms and private reserves. We have allowed the import of elephant trophies and wild lion trophies from the country. However, we have been unable to authorize imports of captive bred lions in that it remains unclear how these hunts support wild lion populations.

South Africa has more than 80% of Africa's surviving rhinos, but since 2009 has experienced a massive increase in rhino poaching activity, which has killed more than 1,000 rhinos per year for the last 3 years. This trend remains an alarming concern for the Service and the conservation community at large.

**Zambia:** Zambia first opened elephant sport hunting in 2005 and it remained open until 2011, improving in management all the while. By 2011, the Service was able to find enhancement for the country and allowed elephant trophy imports. However, the Zambian government shut down sport hunting of elephants of their own volition from 2013 – 2014, reopening in 2015. Reviewing their 2015 data, the Service decided to again allow imports of lion and elephant from 2016 – 2017.

Zambia has around 22,000 elephants. This is a small fraction of the population in recent history, but has held steady for the past decade. The country's rhinos were hunted to extinction in 1994. But with US assistance, they now have a small, highly secured reintroduced, wild population of >30 rhinos (donated from South Africa). In spite of significant hunting revenues, Zambia's wildlife authority has struggled to pay for its own operations and recently reorganized into a department again. We welcome further discussion about their financial sustainability and continued conservation management.

**Zimbabwe:** Prior to 2014, elephant trophies could be imported into the United States. However, due to concern over management, between 2014 – 2015 the Service had negative findings for elephant trophy imports from the country. But as an example of a success story, Zimbabwe has made significant improvements, showcased in their elephant management plans and species census data. Between 2016 – Nov. 14 2017, the Service was able to find enhancement for elephant (and later, lion) trophies. However, with the coup d'état having taken place, the Service has held off on issuing new permits, as we investigate the stability and conservation practices of the new government. Thus far, it appears that the new government shares the old government's conservation practices.

Zimbabwe now has the second largest population of elephants with 82,630 (second to Botswana which has an estimated 131,626 elephants). In the four major elephant populations in Zimbabwe, two (Sebungwe and Zambezi Valley) showed decline in the most recent survey, while two showed stable or increasing populations (Hwange and Gonarezhou). In spite of political instability, economic decline, and an upsurge in poaching, heroic individuals and organizations and landowners have safeguarded key populations of black rhinos. The Service has partnered with these individuals during the past years with very positive results and we hope that the new government in Zimbabwe continues to be an important contributor to conservation.

**Uganda:** Uganda is a heavily settled, human-modified environment with a fraction of its mammal fauna remaining. Its rhino subspecies is extinct in the wild, and elephants number fewer than 5,000 in the whole country. We have strong partnerships with individuals investigating wildlife crime and trafficking of ivory, rhino horn, and pangolin out of Central and East Africa through Uganda.

Lions are in extreme decline, with continent-wide total revised downward to possibly 20,000 individuals. Tanzania, Kenya, Botswana, Mozambique, South Africa, and Zimbabwe have the largest remaining number of individuals, with populations numbering more than 1,000 each. Zambia has fewer than those six countries, but remains an important lion range.

The Service has not had any import applications from Uganda in the past 15 years. Thus far, we have not discussed the potential of ESA listed trophy imports, although it is possible that they may seek to expand their sports hunting to other species. Presently, most of the sport hunting that takes place is for more esoteric species, such as zebra duiker and yellow-back duiker.

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• [gloria\\_bell@fws.gov](mailto:gloria_bell@fws.gov)

• [craig\\_hoover@fws.gov](mailto:craig_hoover@fws.gov)

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Calendar [bryan\\_arroyo@fws.gov](mailto:bryan_arroyo@fws.gov)  
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**From:** [Morris, Charisa](#)  
**To:** [Stephen Guertin](#); [Jim Kurth](#); [Greg Sheehan](#)  
**Cc:** [Zachariah Gambill](#); [Kashyap Patel](#)  
**Subject:** NEED ASAP: Any additions to the Bernhardt meeting agenda?  
**Date:** Monday, January 8, 2018 1:55:18 PM

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I submitted the following, based on last week's agenda. Any additions/revisions?

MBTA Regulation Support

Lawsuit on International Importations (Safari Club and NRA)

VSIP commencing mid-month

Shutdown Plan

(add heads up about red wolf and LPC?)

--

[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

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**To:** [gloria\\_bell@fws.gov](mailto:gloria_bell@fws.gov); [bryan\\_arroyo@fws.gov](mailto:bryan_arroyo@fws.gov); [stephen\\_quertin@fws.gov](mailto:stephen_quertin@fws.gov); [craig\\_hoover@fws.gov](mailto:craig_hoover@fws.gov); [tim\\_vannorman@fws.gov](mailto:tim_vannorman@fws.gov)  
**Subject:** New Event: BRIEFING (Greg, Bryan, Gloria and Tim Vannorman) on lion ... @ Thu Jun 29, 2017 1pm - 2pm (stephen\_quertin@fws.gov)  
**Attachments:** [invite.ics](#)

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Who • [gregory\\_sheehan@fws.gov](mailto:gregory_sheehan@fws.gov) - organizer

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**From:** [Grace, Edward](#)  
**To:** [Greg Sheehan](#); [Jim Kurth](#); [Stephen Guertin](#); [Morris, Charisa](#); [Kashyap Patel](#)  
**Subject:** Port of San Francisco Trophy (Gennet Cat) Issues  
**Date:** Monday, May 21, 2018 11:51:34 AM

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As requested is a briefing paper on the trophy import issues you raised at the port of San Francisco. It sounds like the "affidavit" the hunter's believe is required by wildlife inspectors is questioning by the wildlife inspectors trying to resolve any issues with the shipment so that it can be cleared. It is not an "affidavit" in the typical legal sense of the word or one that would normally be filed in a judicial proceeding.

 [Namibia briefing paper2.doc](#)

 [Microsoft Word - Trophy hunting permit report b...](#)

 [Application-to-hunt-for-trophies.pdf](#)

--

Edward Grace  
Acting Assistant Director  
Office of Law Enforcement  
United States Fish and Wildlife Service  
703-358-1949

**From:** [Nolin, Chris](#)  
**To:** [Stephen Guertin](#)  
**Cc:** [Charisa Morris](#); [Kashyap Patel](#)  
**Subject:** QFRS for Secretary's Hearing  
**Date:** Thursday, April 26, 2018 9:53:20 AM  
**Attachments:** [Consolidated Sec QFRs.docx](#)

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Hi Steve,

Attached are draft responses to the FWS QFRs from the Secretary's hearing before House Appropriations.

How do you think we should clear them? Should I put them in DTS? They are due Friday (tomorrow). Thanks.

--

Chris Nolin  
Budget Officer  
US Fish & Wildlife Service  
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## **Habitat Conservation Plans**

DOI is in control of a very effective force multiplier that facilitates infrastructure development in a way that saves time, money, and avoids litigation all the while meeting obligations under the Endangered Species Act, namely Multi Species Habitat Conservation Plans (HCPs).

**Calvert Q19:** How can DOI most effectively staff so as to expedite the approval and maximize the impact of HCPs?

**Response:** The US Fish and Wildlife Service is placing a priority on providing technical assistance for large, multi-species HCPs over project specific ones. In addition, through the 2016 Habitat Conservation Planning Handbook, we address how to streamline review processes and expedite approval. We are also entering into agreements with applicants who are willing to provide funds for dedicated Service staff to specifically address the needs of their project and expedite the plan development and permitting process.

**Calvert Q20:** How can DOI best expand and expedite their planning and land acquisition grants?

**Response:** The Service is not requesting funding in the FY 2019 Budget request for HCP planning and land acquisition grants under the Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund, in order to support higher priorities. The Service will continue to provide technical assistance to States and landowners to expedite the approval and maximize the impacts of HCPs to the extent that resources permit.

**Calvert Q21:** How can DOI accommodate HCPs making necessary amendments to their plans without risking having to reopen their entire plan?

**Response:** The 2016 Habitat Conservation Planning Handbook (Chapter 17.4) provides specific guidance about HCP amendments. First, the guidance describes administrative changes that would be processed internally, would not require public notice and comment, and would therefore not reopen the plan. Second, the guidance makes clear that, when the scope of the amendment is such that it would require a *Federal Register* notice to seek public comment, we will be limiting public review and comment only to the proposed change and not reopening the entire HCP for revision.

## **African Elephant Sport Trophy-Hunting**

On November 17, 2017 the Fish and Wildlife Service published a notice in the Federal Register that killing African elephant trophy animals in Zimbabwe, between January 2016 and December 2018, will enhance the survival of the African elephant and permit import of body parts. The Obama Administration banned elephant trophy hunting imports from Zimbabwe arguing the agency did not have strong enough reason to believe that the country was properly regulating trophy hunting.

The Service made this policy change at the time Zimbabwe was in the middle of a military coup.

**McCullum Q13:** Why was reviewing the trophy import policy a priority?

**Response:** The Fish and Wildlife Service is obligated under the Endangered Species Act and its implementing regulations to process permit applications, including for the import of sport-hunted trophies. Our review of available information led to a negative enhancement finding under the Endangered Species Act for elephants taken in Zimbabwe during 2014 and 2015. More recently, our review of the available information led to a positive enhancement finding for elephants taken in 2016 (on or after January 21), 2017 and 2018. We have since rescinded all of these country-wide findings and intend to process permit applications on a case-by-case basis in response to the D.C. Circuit Court's opinion in Safari Club Int'l, et al. v. Zinke, et al., No. 16-5358 (D.C. Cir., Dec. 22, 2017).

**McCollum Q14:** What new analysis and evidence did the Service use as the basis for its withdrawal?

**Response:** We received substantial new and additional information regarding elephant status and management in Zimbabwe, including the adoption and implementation of a National Elephant Management Plan. This information was detailed in the positive finding which, as noted above, has since been rescinded.

**McCollum Q15:** Were any outside groups consulted before the Service made this decision?

**Response:** We receive and consider information from a variety of sources. We did not formally seek public comment via the Federal Register or go through formal rule-making, which was the basis for the D.C. Circuit Court's opinion that our negative 2014 and 2015 findings for Zimbabwe were invalid.

**McCollum Q16:** President Trump in a television interview with Piers Morgan criticized resuming trophy imports from Zimbabwe and said he turned that order around, why wasn't the Administration informed about this withdrawal before it happened?

**Response:** The Service did not withdraw a finding; rather, it issued a new finding covering a different time period. As noted above, all of these findings have since been rescinded.

**McCollum Q17:** Why was the turmoil within Zimbabwe not considered as a factor in favor of keeping the ban in place? Who approved moving forward on the release of the withdrawal at that time?

**Response:** Enhancement findings under the Endangered Species Act are made by the Fish and Wildlife Service's Division of Management Authority. The actions within Zimbabwe during November 2017 were taken into consideration, and the Division of Management Authority issued a supplemental finding on November 24 suspending its positive enhancement finding for elephants taken on or after November 14, 2017, until clarity and certainty regarding governance in Zimbabwe could be verified. As noted above, all of these findings have since been rescinded.

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On March 1, 2018 the Principal Deputy Director of the Fish and Wildlife Service issued a memorandum withdrawing, effective immediately, the 2014 and 2015 Endangered Species Act

(ESA) enhancement findings for the head, tusks, and other body parts of hunted African elephants from Zimbabwe, and additionally withdrew ESA enhancement and CITES non-detriment findings for lions, elephants and bontetok in a number of other countries. Interior will now review requests on a case-by-case basis.

**McCollum Q18:** Discuss the basis for this decision when data on declining elephant populations carried on the Service website states, “Across Africa, an estimated 100,000 elephants were killed for their ivory between 2010 and 2012, and the continent-wide estimate for all elephants has now been revised downward to 420,000. Despite some progress in halting and stabilizing the resurgence of elephant poaching since 2011, in some areas, Africa's elephants are still being poached at higher rates than they can naturally reproduce.”

**Response:** The Service’s decision to withdraw these and all other country-wide ESA enhancement findings was solely in response to the D.C. Circuit Court's opinion in *Safari Club Int'l, et al. v. Zinke, et al.*, No. 16-5358 (D.C. Cir., Dec. 22, 2017).

**McCollum Q19:** Discuss the process in place to review these requests, what office/personnel are responsible for making these determinations and what criteria are they using? How are conservation efforts being analyzed and considered? What are your estimates of the additional cost and time that will be spent examining and processing requests for the import of animal parts as trophies under the new policy of case-by-case review? Will the Service be tracking how many applications are filed and authorized that would have previously been denied under the ESA enhancement or CITES non-detriment findings withdrawn in the March 1 memorandum?

**Response:** The Service’s Division of Management Authority processes thousands of permit applications each year, and most of these applications are reviewed on a case-by-case basis. With regard to those applications previously covered by a country-wide enhancement finding, the Service intends to use the information cited in these findings and contained in its files as appropriate, in addition to the information it receives and has available when it receives each application, to evaluate individual permit applications.

The Service is continuing to monitor the status and management of these species in their range countries. When the Service processes these permit applications, the Service will do so on an individual basis, including making ESA enhancement determinations, and CITES non-detriment determinations when required, for each application. The Service will grant or deny permits to import a sport-hunted trophy on a case-by-case basis pursuant to its authorities under the ESA and CITES. As part of the permitting process, the Service reviews each application received for import of such trophies and evaluates the information provided in the application as well as other information available to the Service as to the status of and management program for the species or population to ensure that the program is promoting the conservation of the species. Each application must also meet all other applicable permitting requirements before it may be authorized.

We do not have an estimate of the additional cost or time required to process these applications on a case-by-case basis, though we note that this is already the case for most of the applications we process. We will maintain records of each application, including each permit issued or application denied.

**McCollum Q20:** How are you ensuring there is a clear connection between money that will be spent for these hunting trips and the conservation and protection of these iconic animals?

**Response:** Revenue generation is just one aspect that we may consider in determining whether the import of a sport-hunted trophy enhances the survival of the species in the wild. In evaluating whether financial resources are being used for conservation, including protected area management, anti-poaching patrols, support to local communities, etc., we seek information from the governments directly as well as from other organizations and individuals.

### **Advisory Board: International Wildlife Conservation Council**

On November 8, 2017 Secretary Zinke announced the creation of a 16 member International Wildlife Conservation Council to provide advice and recommendations on the benefits that international recreational hunting has on foreign wildlife and habitat conservation, anti-poaching and illegal wildlife trafficking programs.

**McCollum Q21:** You have outlined that one of their duties will be to recommend removal of barriers to the importation of legally hunted wildlife. Does this include African elephants, lions and rhinos?

**Response:** Yes.

**McCollum Q22:** How have you ensured diverse perspectives are represented on this board?

**Response:** IWCC membership was selected to ensure it is fairly balanced in terms of the points of view represented and the functions to be performed as outlined in its charter.

**McCollum Q23:** Please outline the qualifications of these members:

- Of the 16 members, how many are sport hunters?
- How many members have scientific expertise in conservation?
- How many members have direct experience with the management of successful conservation programs?
- How many members do not have any financial or commercial stake in international trophy hunting?

**Response:** [no answer suggested].

**McCollum Q24:** Do you see any conflict with having members from Safari Club International when they contributed funds to your campaign for Congress?

**Response:** No.

**McCollum Q25:** In 2014, the Safari Club International and the National Rifle Association filed suit to challenge the Zimbabwe sport trophy-hunting ban despite statistics showing that in 2013 the Zimbabwe elephant population was 47,366 down from 84,416 in 2007? Does that give you any pause about their ability to objectively view facts and help make decisions? Are there any connections between these members and the Trump family?

**Response:** [no answer suggested]

**McCollum Q26:** What is the status of lion trophy hunting imports from Zimbabwe and Zambia?

**Response:** On March 1, 2018, the Fish and Wildlife Service issued a memo in response to the D.C. Circuit Court's opinion in *Safari Club Int'l, et al. v. Zinke, et al.*, No. 16-5358 (D.C. Cir., Dec. 22, 2017). In that memo, the Service withdrew, effective immediately, all country-wide findings, including those for lions in Zimbabwe and Zambia. These findings are no longer effective for making individual permit determinations for imports of sport-hunted lions. However, the Service intends to use the information cited in these findings and contained in its files as appropriate, in addition to the information it receives and has available when it receives each application, to evaluate individual permit applications. The Service intends to process permit applications on an individual basis, including making ESA enhancement determinations, and CITES non-detriment determinations when required, for each application. The Service intends to grant or deny permits to import a sport-hunted trophy on a case-by-case basis pursuant to its authorities under the ESA and CITES. As part of the permitting process, the Service reviews each application received for import of such trophies and evaluates the information provided in the application as well as other information available to the Service as to the status of and management program for the species or population to ensure that the program is promoting the conservation of the species. Each application must also meet all other applicable permitting requirements before it may be authorized.

**McCollum Q27:** What current litigation exists on these rulings?

**Response:** In addition to the SCI/NRA litigation noted above, there are two other cases that relate to these rulings (*Center for Biological Diversity, et al. v. Zinke, et al.*, No. 17-2504 (D.D.C.) and *Friends of Animals, et al. v. Zinke, et al.*, No. 17-2530 (D.D.C.)). The first case challenges the 2017 enhancement findings for elephants and lions from Zimbabwe, while its 2nd Amended complaint proposes to also challenge the March 1, 2018, memo. The second case challenges the 2017 enhancement finding for elephants from Zimbabwe, while its 2nd Amended complaint proposes to also challenge the March 1, 2018, memo.

### **Solicitor's Opinion on Migratory Bird Treaty Act**

On December 22, 2017, the Principal Deputy Solicitor Exercising the Authority of the Solicitor Pursuant to Secretary's Order 3345, issued a memorandum stating the Migratory Bird Treaty Act does not prohibit incidental take. Shortly after this opinion was issued, seventeen former top Interior Department officials, both Republicans and Democrats, protested this "ill-conceived" new legal opinion that states the Migratory Bird Treaty Act protections only cover intentional acts.

**McCollum Q47:** What guidance have you given to the Fish and Wildlife Service on how to enforce this new legal opinion?

- Has instruction been given to the Fish and Wildlife Service about changing the Service manual?

**Response:** In February 2018, as a result of the new interpretation of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) removed the manual chapter relating to incidental take of migratory birds, “Incidental Take Prohibited Under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act” (720 FW3). On April 11, 2018, the Service issued general guidance to its Program and Regional Directors on implementation of the December 2017 Department of the Interior Solicitor’s Office Opinion, M-37050. The guidance states that we will continue to fully implement the prohibitions on incidental take as defined under the Endangered Species Act and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act. It also states that we will continue to work with any partner who is interested in voluntarily reducing impacts to migratory birds and their habitats and provide recommendations for reducing these impacts through reviews under other authorities, such as NEPA and the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act. It directs that the Service will not withhold permits or requests or require mitigation based on incidental impacts under the MBTA. We will ensure any comments, recommendations or requirements we make are not based on – and do not imply - authority under the MBTA to regulate incidental take. Further policy and instruction may follow, as appropriate.

**McCollum Q48:** What will you do in the event of another Deepwater Horizon spill? Would you consider that to be “intentional” take or “accidental” take?

- In the Deepwater Horizon spill 1 million migratory birds were injured or killed. If the Department will no longer seek compensation for spills like Deepwater Horizon, how will you mitigate for such devastating impacts on migratory birds?
- Why don’t you feel this new legal opinion favors the oil industry over the protection of migratory birds?

**Response:** In practice, the new M-Opinion means that if an oil or hazardous chemical release occurs and is not done with the intent of taking migratory birds, the MBTA does not apply. Protections of publicly held natural resources, including migratory birds, under other authorities (such as the Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Act, Oil Pollution Act, and Clean Water Act) will still apply in these situations. Parties responsible for these incidents will still be held accountable under the incidental take prohibitions in the Endangered Species Act and Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act, as well as any applicable state laws. The M-Opinion applies to all industries equally, and the Department will continue to work with our industry partners to minimize impacts on migratory birds, whenever proponents or operators are willing to work with us toward this goal.

**McCollum Q49:** This legal opinion is contrary to the long-standing interpretation that has been in place since the 1970’s.

- What standards have changed to justify reversing the long-standing interpretation?
- What analysis has been done on the impact of this opinion on bird populations?

- Why did the Department think the previous approach which enforced the Migratory Bird Treaty Act fairly in balancing the goals of economic progress with the impact of that progress on bird populations was not reasonable?

**Response:** U.S. courts are split on the question of whether or not the MBTA prohibits incidental take. The most recent Departmental review and analysis of case law, conducted by the new DOI Solicitor and included in M-37050, describes the rationale used to determine that the MBTA does not prohibit incidental take.

**McCollum Q50:** On January 10, 2018, conservation professionals who all served in the Department of the Interior from 1971 to 2017, under Republican and Democratic administrations, wrote to Secretary Zinke to express concern about what they determined was “an ill-conceived opinion” and asked for its suspension.

- Why has the Department chosen to ignore this request to not prohibit the unregulated killing of birds?

**Response:** While there is disagreement about M-37050 among a number of those who implemented and enforced the MBTA in the past, the fact remains that U.S. courts are split on this question.

**McCollum Q51:** What incentive will industry now have to cover crude oil waste pits with nets to keep birds from landing in them if this opinion says there will be no action taken against them since they did not “intend” to kill birds?

**Response:** The Department will continue to offer technical expertise to willing industry and other partners to develop and/or apply best management practices to minimize the impacts of industrial and other human activities on migratory birds, and to comply with applicable state laws.

**From:** [Kashyap Patel](#)  
**To:** [Aurelia Skipwith](#)  
**Cc:** [Stephen Guertin](#); [Chris Nolin](#); [Gary Frazer](#); [Morris, Charisa](#); [Maureen Foster](#)  
**Subject:** QFRs  
**Date:** Friday, June 15, 2018 11:05:37 AM  
**Attachments:** [Consolidated House QFR responses to edits \(1\).docx](#)

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Hi Aurelia -

Please find attached our latest draft of the QFRs. I understand they incorporate the changes you discussed with Gary.

Please let me know if you need anything else!  
Kashyap

--

[Kashyap\\_Patel@fws.gov](mailto:Kashyap_Patel@fws.gov) | acting Deputy Chief of Staff, Office of the Director | U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service  
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## Habitat Conservation Plans

DOI is in control of a very effective force multiplier that facilitates infrastructure development in a way that saves time, money, and avoids litigation all the while meeting obligations under the Endangered Species Act, namely Multi Species Habitat Conservation Plans (HCPs).

**Calvert Q19:** How can DOI most effectively staff so as to expedite the approval and maximize the impact of HCPs?

**Response:** The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is placing a priority on providing technical assistance for large, multi-species HCPs over project-specific plans. In addition, through the 2016 Habitat Conservation Planning Handbook, the Service addresses how to streamline review processes and expedite approvals. The Service is also entering into agreements with applicants who are willing to provide funds for dedicated Service staff to specifically address the needs of their project and expedite the plan development and permitting process.

**Calvert Q20:** How can DOI best expand and expedite their planning and land acquisition grants?

**Response:** The Service is not requesting funding in the FY 2019 Budget request for HCP planning and land acquisition grants under the Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund, in order to support higher priorities. The Service will continue to provide technical assistance to States and landowners to expedite the approval and maximize the impacts of HCPs to the extent that resources permit.

**Calvert Q21:** How can DOI accommodate HCPs making necessary amendments to their plans without risking having to reopen their entire plan?

**Response:** The 2016 Habitat Conservation Planning Handbook (Chapter 17.4) provides specific guidance about HCP amendments. First, the guidance describes administrative changes that would be processed internally, would not require public notice and comment, and would therefore not reopen the plan. Second, the guidance makes clear that, when the scope of the amendment is such that it would require a *Federal Register* notice to seek public comment, the Service will limit public review to comments only on the proposed change and not reopen the entire HCP for revision.

## Endangered Species Act

**Calvert Q33:** I know you're well aware of State frustrations with implementation of the Endangered Species Act. We are beginning to see hints of a shift in the approach of the Fish and Wildlife Service under your leadership and with guidance from bipartisan members of this subcommittee. It is a shift towards a more collaborative ESA process with States treated as equal partners, as Congress intended.

We believe that recovery is a shared responsibility that does not default to the Fish and Wildlife Service. Although final decisions ultimately rest with the Service, nothing in law prohibits

States from being involved in the process. Increasing collaboration throughout all phases of ESA implementation is in everyone's best interest.

The subcommittee will continue to foster this collaboration in several ways: (1) by incentivizing increased State and non-governmental organization involvement and leadership through matching grants; and (2) by directing the Fish and Wildlife Service to focus on ESA actions that are inherently Federal—in other words, actions that only the Federal government can do. For instance, there are still 49 species awaiting a formal downlisting or delisting.

Do you agree with this approach, and will you work with us to help make implementation of the Endangered Species Act a more collaborative process?

**Response:** The Service encourages and appreciates active participation from the States and other partners in all parts of recovery, including developing plans, implementing actions, and monitoring species on the ground. Longstanding strong support for State involvement in ESA implementation was reflected in the recent update to the Service's Interagency Policy Regarding the Role of State Agencies in ESA Activities (81 FR 8663, February 22, 2016). More recently, the Principal Deputy Director issued guidance on January 16, 2018, directing that all Species Status Assessment teams invite participation by each affected State. The Service looks forward to working with the Committee to encourage greater collaboration with States, Tribes, non-governmental organizations, and landowners in implementation of the ESA.

### **African Elephant Sport Trophy-Hunting**

On November 17, 2017 the Fish and Wildlife Service published a notice in the Federal Register that killing African elephant trophy animals in Zimbabwe, between January 2016 and December 2018, will enhance the survival of the African elephant and permit import of body parts. The Obama Administration banned elephant trophy hunting imports from Zimbabwe arguing the agency did not have strong enough reason to believe that the country was properly regulating trophy hunting.

The Service made this policy change at the time Zimbabwe was in the middle of a military coup.

**McCollum Q13:** Why was reviewing the trophy import policy a priority?

**Response:** The Service is obligated under the ESA and its implementing regulations to process permit applications, including for the import of sport-hunted trophies. The Service's review of available information led to a negative enhancement finding under the ESA for elephants taken in Zimbabwe during 2014 and 2015. More recently, the available information led to a positive enhancement finding for elephants taken in 2016 (on or after January 21), 2017, and 2018. As a result of the political coup, we subsequently issued a supplemental finding that suspended the positive finding until such time that we have more clarity and certainty about governance with regard to elephant management in Zimbabwe. In response to the D.C. Circuit Court's opinion in *Safari Club International, et al. v. Zinke, et al.*, No. 16-5358 (D.C. Cir., Dec. 22, 2017) the Service has since rescinded all of these country-wide findings and will process permit applications on a case-by-case basis.

**McCollum Q14:** What new analysis and evidence did the Service use as the basis for its withdrawal?

**Response:** When the Service issued a positive enhancement finding for 2016 (on or after January 21), 2017, and 2018, it did not withdraw the previous negative enhancement finding under the ESA for elephants taken in Zimbabwe during 2014 and 2015. Rather, the Service issued a new finding covering a different time period. The Service received substantial new and additional information regarding elephant status and management in Zimbabwe, including the adoption and implementation of a National Elephant Management Plan. This information was detailed in the negative finding that was later supplemented to suspend the positive funding as a result of the political situation in Zimbabwe. As noted above, the findings have since been rescinded.

**McCollum Q15:** Were any outside groups consulted before the Service made this decision?

**Response:** The Service receives and considers information from a variety of sources. The Service did not formally seek public comment via the *Federal Register* or go through a formal rule-making process, which was the basis for the D.C. Circuit Court's opinion that the negative 2014 and 2015 findings for Zimbabwe were invalid. In response to the D.C. Circuit Court's opinion, the Service has since rescinded all of these country-wide findings and will process permit applications on a case-by-case basis.

**McCollum Q16:** President Trump in a television interview with Piers Morgan criticized resuming trophy imports from Zimbabwe and said he turned that order around, why wasn't the Administration informed about this withdrawal before it happened?

**Response:** The Service did not withdraw a finding; rather, it issued a new finding covering a different time period. All of these findings have since been rescinded in response to the D.C. Circuit Court's opinion in *Safari Club Int'l, et al. v. Zinke, et al.*, No. 16-5358 (D.C. Cir., Dec. 22, 2017).

**McCollum Q17:** Why was the turmoil within Zimbabwe not considered as a factor in favor of keeping the ban in place? Who approved moving forward on the release of the withdrawal at that time?

**Response:** Enhancement findings under the ESA are made by the Fish and Wildlife Service's Division of Management Authority. The actions within Zimbabwe during November 2017 were taken into consideration, and the Division of Management Authority issued a supplemental finding on November 24, 2017 suspending its positive enhancement finding for elephants taken on or after November 14, 2017, until clarity and certainty regarding governance in Zimbabwe could be verified. As noted above, all of these findings have since been rescinded in response to the D.C. Circuit Court's opinion in *Safari Club Int'l, et al. v. Zinke, et al.*, No. 16-5358 (D.C. Cir., Dec. 22, 2017).

**McCollum Q18:** On March 1, 2018 the Principal Deputy Director of the Fish and Wildlife Service issued a memorandum withdrawing, effective immediately, the 2014 and 2015 Endangered Species Act (ESA) enhancement findings for the head, tusks, and other body parts of hunted African elephants from Zimbabwe, and additionally withdrew ESA enhancement and CITES non-detriment findings for lions, elephants and bontetok in a number of other countries. Interior will now review requests on a case-by-case basis.

Discuss the basis for this decision when data on declining elephant populations carried on the Service website states, “Across Africa, an estimated 100,000 elephants were killed for their ivory between 2010 and 2012, and the continent-wide estimate for all elephants has now been revised downward to 420,000. Despite some progress in halting and stabilizing the resurgence of elephant poaching since 2011, in some areas, Africa's elephants are still being poached at higher rates than they can naturally reproduce.”

**Response:** The Service’s positive enhancement finding for Zimbabwe for 2016 (on or after January 21), 2017, and 2018, was based on substantial new and additional information regarding elephant status and management in Zimbabwe, including the adoption and implementation of a National Elephant Management Plan. This information addressed concerns raised in the previous negative finding for 2014 and 2015. However, as noted above, these findings have now been rescinded. The Service’s decision to withdraw these and all other country-wide ESA enhancement findings was solely in response to the D.C. Circuit Court's opinion in *Safari Club Int'l, et al. v. Zinke, et al.*, No. 16-5358 (D.C. Cir., Dec. 22, 2017).

**McCollum Q19:** Discuss the process in place to review these requests, what office/personnel are responsible for making these determinations and what criteria are they using? How are conservation efforts being analyzed and considered? What are your estimates of the additional cost and time that will be spent examining and processing requests for the import of animal parts as trophies under the new policy of case-by-case review? Will the Service be tracking how many applications are filed and authorized that would have previously been denied under the ESA enhancement or CITES non-detriment findings withdrawn in the March 1 memorandum?

**Response:** The Service’s Division of Management Authority processes thousands of permit applications each year, and most of these applications are reviewed on a case-by-case basis. With regard to those applications previously covered by a country-wide enhancement finding, the Service intends to use the information cited in these findings and contained in its files as appropriate, in addition to the information it receives and has available when it receives each application, to evaluate individual permit applications.

The Service is continuing to monitor the status and management of these species in their range countries. When the Service processes these permit applications, the Service will do so on an individual basis, including making ESA enhancement determinations and CITES non-detriment determinations when required, for each application. The Service will grant or deny permits to import a sport-hunted trophy on a case-by-case basis pursuant to its authorities under the ESA and CITES. As part of the permitting process, the Service reviews each application received for import of such trophies and evaluates the information provided in the application as well as other information available to the Service as to the status of and management program for the species or population to ensure that the program is promoting the conservation of the species. Each application must also meet all other applicable permitting requirements before it may be authorized.

The Service does not have an estimate of the additional cost or time required to process these applications on a case-by-case basis, at least in part because the Service is not able to determine the number of applications it will receive in the future or the circumstances relevant to the required findings that will be included in those applications. The number of applications and the specific facts associated with them drive the time required to process permit applications. The

primary costs associated with application processing involve the time it takes the Service employees to review relevant information and write findings. However, as noted above, this is not a major change in practices. Most of the applications that the Service processes involve findings made on a case-by-case basis; going forward, trophy applications will be added those case-by-case findings. We will maintain records of each application, including each permit issued or application denied.

**McCollum Q20:** How are you ensuring there is a clear connection between money that will be spent for these hunting trips and the conservation and protection of these iconic animals?

**Response:** Revenue generation is just one aspect the Service may consider in determining whether the import of a sport-hunted trophy enhances the survival of the species in the wild. In evaluating whether financial resources are being used for conservation, including protected area management, anti-poaching patrols, support to local communities, etc., we seek information from the governments directly about their wildlife management regimes and how financial resources generated from hunting support those conservation programs. We also consider published research and reports and relevant information from organizations and individuals.

### **Advisory Board: International Wildlife Conservation Council**

On November 8, 2017, Secretary Zinke announced the creation of a 16-member International Wildlife Conservation Council to provide advice and recommendations on the benefits that international recreational hunting has on foreign wildlife and habitat conservation, anti-poaching and illegal wildlife trafficking programs.

**McCollum Q21:** You have outlined that one of their duties will be to recommend removal of barriers to the importation of legally hunted wildlife. Does this include African elephants, lions and rhinos?

**Response:** Yes, the Council may consider importation barriers to legally hunted wildlife. In order to allow importation of legally hunted wildlife the Service must first make a finding that doing so enhances the survival of the species.

**McCollum Q22:** How have you ensured diverse perspectives are represented on this board?

**Response:** IWCC membership was selected to ensure it is fairly balanced in terms of the points of view represented and the functions to be performed as outlined in its charter.

**McCollum Q23:** Please outline the qualifications of these members:

- Of the 16 members, how many are sport hunters?
- How many members have scientific expertise in conservation?
- How many members have direct experience with the management of successful conservation programs?
- How many members do not have any financial or commercial stake in international trophy hunting?

**Response:** Membership qualifications are outlined in the IWCC Charter. Specifically, IWCC members are senior-level representatives of their organizations and/or have the ability to represent their designated constituency group: wildlife and habitat conservation/management organizations; U.S. hunters actively engaged in international and/or domestic hunting conservation; the firearms or ammunition manufacturing industry; archery and/or hunting sports industry; and tourism, outfitter, and/or guide industries related to international hunting. Membership of the Council can be found at <https://www.facadatabase.gov/committee/members.aspx?cid=2636>

**McCollum Q24:** Do you see any conflict with having members from Safari Club International when they contributed funds to your campaign for Congress?

**Response:** No, the Department of the Interior considers the opinions of many stakeholders as well as the best scientific information in developing policy and regulations. While the IWCC provides advice and recommendations, the authority to create the policy and regulations rests with the Secretary of the Interior and/or the Director of the Fish and Wildlife Service. Under CITES, an import permit for an endangered species may only be issued if the import will be for purposes which are not detrimental to the survival of the species involved and the recipient of a living specimen is suitably equipped to house and care for it. Additionally, the Fish and Wildlife Service must be satisfied that the specimen is not to be used for primarily commercial purposes. Under the Endangered Species Act, the Fish and Wildlife Service is only allowed to grant import permits for otherwise prohibited imports and exports if it finds the import will “enhance the propagation or survival” of the affected species.

**McCollum Q25:** In 2014, the Safari Club International and the National Rifle Association filed suit to challenge the Zimbabwe sport trophy-hunting ban despite statistics showing that in 2013 the Zimbabwe elephant population was 47,366 down from 84,416 in 2007? Does that give you any pause about their ability to objectively view facts and help make decisions? Are there any connections between these members and the Trump family?

**Response:** The Council was created and its members selected in order to advise the Secretary on a range of foreign wildlife and habitat conservation topics including developing recommendations to enhance anti-poaching and illegal wildlife trafficking programs. While the IWCC provides advice and recommendations, the authority to create the policy and regulations rests with the Secretary of the Interior and/or the Director of the Fish and Wildlife Service.

**McCollum Q26:** What is the status of lion trophy hunting imports from Zimbabwe and Zambia?

**Response:** On March 1, 2018, the Fish and Wildlife Service issued a memo in response to the D.C. Circuit Court's opinion in *Safari Club Int'l, et al. v. Zinke, et al.*, No. 16-5358 (D.C. Cir., Dec. 22, 2017). In that memo, the Service withdrew, effective immediately, all country-wide findings, including those for lions in Zimbabwe and Zambia. These findings are no longer effective for making individual permit determinations for imports of sport-hunted lions. However, the Service intends to use the information cited in these findings and contained in its files as appropriate, in addition to the information it receives and has available when it receives each application, to evaluate individual permit applications. The Service intends to process permit applications on an individual basis, including making ESA enhancement determinations, and CITES non-detriment determinations when required, for each application. The Service

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**McCollum Q27:** What current litigation exists on these rulings?

**Response:** In addition to the SCI/NRA litigation noted above, there are two other cases that relate to these rulings (*Center for Biological Diversity, et al. v. Zinke, et al.*, No. 17-2504 (D.D.C.) and *Friends of Animals, et al. v. Zinke, et al.*, No. 17-2530 (D.D.C.)). The first case challenges the 2017 enhancement findings for elephants and lions from Zimbabwe and, through an amended complaint, the March 1, 2018, memo. The second case challenges the 2017 enhancement finding for elephants from Zimbabwe, while its second amended complaint proposes to also challenge the March 1, 2018, memo.

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**McCollum Q47:** What guidance have you given to the Fish and Wildlife Service on how to enforce this new legal opinion?

- Has instruction been given to the Fish and Wildlife Service about changing the Service manual?

**Response:** In February 2018, as a result of the new interpretation of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) removed the manual chapter relating to incidental take of migratory birds, "Incidental Take Prohibited Under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act" (720 FW3). On April 11, 2018, the Service issued general guidance to its Program and Regional Directors on implementation of the December 2017 Department of the Interior Solicitor's Office Opinion, M-37050. The guidance states that we will continue to fully implement the prohibitions on incidental take as defined under the Endangered Species Act and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act. It also states that we will continue to work with any partner who is interested in voluntarily reducing impacts to migratory birds and their habitats and provide recommendations for reducing these impacts through reviews under other authorities, such as NEPA and the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act. It directs that the Service will not withhold permits or requests or require mitigation based on incidental impacts under the MBTA. We will ensure any comments, recommendations or requirements we make are not based on –

and do not imply - authority under the MBTA to regulate incidental take. Further policy and instruction may follow, as appropriate.

**McCollum Q48:** What will you do in the event of another Deepwater Horizon spill? Would you consider that to be “intentional” take or “accidental” take?

- In the Deepwater Horizon spill 1 million migratory birds were injured or killed. If the Department will no longer seek compensation for spills like Deepwater Horizon, how will you mitigate for such devastating impacts on migratory birds?
- Why don't you feel this new legal opinion favors the oil industry over the protection of migratory birds?

**Response:** The new M-Opinion concludes that the MBTA does not apply when the intent and underlying purpose is not to take birds. This means that if an oil or hazardous chemical release occurs, protections of publicly held natural resources, including migratory birds, under other authorities (such as the Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Act, Oil Pollution Act, and Clean Water Act) will still apply in these situations. Parties responsible for these incidents will still be held accountable under the incidental take prohibitions in the Endangered Species Act and Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act, as well as any applicable state laws. The M-Opinion applies to all industries equally, and the Department will continue to work with our industry partners to minimize impacts on migratory birds, whenever proponents or operators are willing to work with us toward this goal.

**McCollum Q49:** This legal opinion is contrary to the long-standing interpretation that has been in place since the 1970's.

- What standards have changed to justify reversing the long-standing interpretation?
- What analysis has been done on the impact of this opinion on bird populations?
- Why did the Department think the previous approach which enforced the Migratory Bird Treaty Act fairly in balancing the goals of economic progress with the impact of that progress on bird populations was not reasonable?

**Response:** U.S. courts are split on the question of whether or not the MBTA prohibits incidental take. The most recent Departmental review and analysis of case law, conducted by the Principle Deputy Solicitor and included in M-37050, describes the rationale used to determine that the MBTA does not prohibit incidental take.

**McCollum Q50:** On January 10, 2018, conservation professionals who all served in the Department of the Interior from 1971 to 2017, under Republican and Democratic administrations, wrote to Secretary Zinke to express concern about what they determined was “an ill-conceived opinion” and asked for its suspension.

- Why has the Department chosen to ignore this request to not prohibit the unregulated killing of birds?

**Response:** While some may disagree with M-37050, and how the MBTA was implemented and enforced in the past, the fact remains that U.S. courts are split on this question.

**McCollum Q51:** What incentive will industry now have to cover crude oil waste pits with nets to keep birds from landing in them if this opinion says there will be no action taken against them since they did not “intend” to kill birds?

**Response:** The Department will continue to offer technical expertise to willing industry and other partners to develop and/or apply best management practices to minimize the impacts of industrial and other human activities on migratory birds, and to comply with applicable state laws.

**From:** [Foster, Maureen](#)  
**To:** [Gale, Michael](#)  
**Cc:** [Casey Hammond](#); [Greg Sheehan](#); [Jim Kurth](#); [Stephen Guertin](#); [Charisa Morris](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Add. Items for Weekly Report 2017-08-09  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 8, 2017 5:36:07 PM

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Thanks much. No worries -- our office is reviewing the report now.

---

Maureen D. Foster  
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[Maureen\\_Foster@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Maureen_Foster@ios.doi.gov)

On Tue, Aug 8, 2017 at 11:12 AM, Gale, Michael <[michael\\_gale@fws.gov](mailto:michael_gale@fws.gov)> wrote:

Hello Maureen,

Per the request of our International Affairs and External Affairs programs, I've been asked to add two last minute additions to the Weekly Report for August 9, 2017.

Charisa asked that I highlight these last minute additions in a different color (orange) so that you can spot them right away, and I've [added them to the Google document](#) as well as pasted here for your immediate reference:

### **Week Ahead Announcement and Actions**

In mid-August, FWS will announce that after reviewing updated information from South Africa, it will again authorize imports of wild and wild-managed lions from South Africa taken during 2017-2019. In 2016, FWS listed the lion in eastern and southern Africa as threatened under the ESA. FWS contacted each of the countries within this region that have conducted trophy lion hunts in the past few years to obtain information on the country's lion population, management of lions, and how sport-hunting has contributed to survival of the species. FWS then authorized the import of wild and wild managed lion sport-hunted trophies in 2016. No outreach is planned because the status is unchanged from 2016.

### **30-60-Day Look Ahead**

At the end of August, FWS plans to publish in the *Federal Register* a change to the permitting status for imports of African elephant trophies from Zimbabwe. In 2014 and 2015, FWS was unable to determine that the hunting programs and subsequent imports of

African elephant trophies from Zimbabwe met criteria under ESA regulations, so FWS could not authorize the issuance of import permits. After receiving information from Zimbabwe on a number of substantial improvements to their management program and elephant conservation efforts, FWS has determined that taking of African elephant trophy animals in Zimbabwe on or after January 21, 2016 (the date that Zimbabwe's new management plan was officially adopted) through 2017 would enhance the survival of African elephants, and import permits can be issued for these trophies. Planned outreach includes a news release, comprehensive FAQs and social media.

Please let us know if you have any questions on this new material, and please accept our apologies for the last minute addition.

cheers,

Michael

--

Michael Gale

Deputy Chief of Staff (Acting), Director's Office  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

202.208.4923 (office)  
571.982.2158 (cell)

**From:** [Morris, Charisa](#)  
**To:** [Foster, Maureen](#)  
**Cc:** [Greg Sheehan](#); [Jim Kurth](#); [Stephen Guertin](#); [Zachariah Gambill](#); [Michael Gale](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Bullets for biweekly meeting  
**Date:** Monday, November 6, 2017 4:09:26 PM

---

Corrected date in last bullet below (they got it in last FRIDAY, not today) :-)

On Mon, Nov 6, 2017 at 4:06 PM, Morris, Charisa <[charisa\\_morris@fws.gov](mailto:charisa_morris@fws.gov)> wrote:

Nonresponsive Records

[Redacted]

- [Redacted]
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**Lion and Elephant ESA Enhancement Findings:**

- USFWS has determined that the hunting and management programs for lions (*Panthera leo melanochaita*) in Zambia and Zimbabwe will enhance the survival of the species in the wild, which is required prior to allowing import of these trophies under Endangered Species Act regulations. USFWS is now issuing permits to import these trophies. USFWS anticipates completing a positive finding for elephants (*Loxodonta africana*) in Zambia and will be able to issue permits once that finding is in place.
- Date and Action: October 20: Zimbabwe and Zambia ESA enhancement findings completed for lions, covering trophies taken during 2016-2018; October 27: anticipated date that Zambia ESA enhancement finding for elephants will be completed.
- Controversy and media attention expected: These determinations are likely to be controversial with some animal rights and conservation groups opposed to lion hunting. USFWS has updated its website and created a Sport-hunted Trophies: Lions page to provide an updated status on ESA findings.
- Items of note: USFWS has already issued and mailed all 35 pending permit applications for Zimbabwe and Zambia lion sport-hunted trophies and key stakeholders have been notified. The Zambia elephant finding will not be rolled out until the already completed Zimbabwe elephant finding has been published in the Federal Register.
- Interested parties: Safari Club International, Conservation Force, National Rifle Association, individual sport hunters, Zimbabwe and Zambia governments, conservation and animal rights organizations.
- **UPDATE:**
  - o **Exec sec sent forward for policy approval on 11/3/17**

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[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

**From:** [Foster, Maureen](#)  
**To:** [Gale, Michael](#)  
**Cc:** [Greg Sheehan](#); [Charisa Morris](#); [Jim Kurth](#); [Stephen Guertin](#); [Zachariah Gambill](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Bullets for Secretary's BiWeekly Check-in  
**Date:** Tuesday, October 24, 2017 9:33:23 AM  
**Attachments:** [Biweekly bullets 2017-10-11.docx](#)

---

These topics are great. We will need more detailed bullets on all the topics. Please use the bullets on the Priority Endangered Species items as the standard.

Here is a copy of the bullets from the last meeting for reference.

Please submit the bullets by 2:30 today.

Thanks.

---

Maureen D. Foster  
Chief of Staff  
Office of the Assistant Secretary  
for Fish and Wildlife and Parks  
1849 C Street, NW, Room 3161  
Washington, DC 20240

202.208.5970 (desk)  
202.208.4416 (main)

[Maureen\\_Foster@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Maureen_Foster@ios.doi.gov)

On Mon, Oct 23, 2017 at 11:04 AM, Gale, Michael <[michael\\_gale@fws.gov](mailto:michael_gale@fws.gov)> wrote:

Hello Maureen,

Here are some bullets for the biweekly Secretary Check-in for this week based on some feedback from Greg:

- **Nonresponsive Records**
  - [REDACTED]
- Enhancement Finding for Lions and Elephants:
  - USFWS has determined that the hunting and management programs for lions (*Panthera leo melanochaita*) in Zambia and Zimbabwe and for elephants (*Loxodonta africana*) in Zambia will enhance the survival of the species in the wild, which is required prior to allowing import of these trophies under Endangered Species Act regulations. USFWS is now issuing permits to import these trophies.
- **Nonresponsive Records**
  - [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
  - [REDACTED]

Please let us know if you need any additional information.

cheers,

Michael

--

Michael Gale

Deputy Chief of Staff (Acting), Director's Office  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

202.208.4923 (office)  
571.982.2158 (cell)

# CURRENT OPERATIONS

## FWS

Nonresponsive Records

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

## MAJOR EVENTS AND TRAVEL

Nonresponsive Records [REDACTED]

**From:** [Trott, Matthew](#)  
**To:** [Gale, Michael](#)  
**Cc:** [Greg Sheehan](#); [Jim Kurth](#); [Stephen Guertin](#); [Charisa Morris](#); [Foster, Maureen](#); [Wainman, Barbara](#); [Matthew Huggler](#)  
**Subject:** Re: FishBites 09.12.17  
**Date:** Monday, September 11, 2017 9:43:22 AM

---

Hi there, this item came in late, but I wanted to pass on some great work on hurricane relief

*Josh O'Connor, fire specialist in FWS' Southeast Region, uses innovative technology to guide Hurricane Harvey responders in their rescue efforts.*

- **Topic:** O'Connor combined publicly available geo-referenced PDF maps with the Avenza mobile application for smart phones and tablets. The maps provided responders with an instant resource for locating flooded or submerged streets, parking lots, or parks. It also warns them about utility infrastructures that are situated underneath them, and about where any important infrastructures might be located that they cannot see. Thanks to O'Connor and other FWS mapping experts, these maps are available at <https://www.fws.gov/southeast/our-services/fire/#hurricane-harvey-response>

Maps were produced for the cities of Port Arthur, Beaumont, and Orange, Texas, as well as Hardin, Jefferson, Liberty and Orange Counties.

**Supportive stakeholders:** FWS Southeast Region's fire and map experts, local Texas search and rescue crews, local Texas firefighters and law enforcement officers, and the U.S. Coast Guard.

- **Affected area:** Texas

Matt Trott  
U.S. FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE  
EA-Division of Marketing Communications  
MS: EA  
5275 Leesburg Pike  
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803  
703-358-2512  
Email communication is easier and better for me.

On Sat, Sep 9, 2017 at 12:57 PM, Gale, Michael <[michael\\_gale@fws.gov](mailto:michael_gale@fws.gov)> wrote:

Hello,

I know a lot of folks are out on travel for AFWA, but I wanted to make sure you got the

FishBites for this week anyway. They are attached and pasted below for your immediate reference.

I'm sending them a little early since I will be out of the office Monday through Wednesday.

cheers,

Michael

--

Michael Gale

Deputy Chief of Staff (Acting), Director's Office  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

202.208.4923 (office)  
571.982.2158 (cell)

--

### **FishBites 09.13.17**

#### *Reaffirming that hunting contributes to lion conservation in South Africa*

· **Topic:** On August 31, FWS approved the import of lion trophies taken in South Africa during permitted hunts from wild and wild-managed lion populations through the 2019 hunting seasons, unless information is received that would cause us to reconsider. U.S. hunters that hunt lions from these populations will be participating in a hunting program that provides a clear conservation benefit. This decision meets our obligation under the Endangered Species Act while building and sustaining community support for lion conservation and helping combat poaching and illegal trade in South Africa.

· **Supportive Stakeholders:** Safari Club International, National Rifle Association, Dallas Safari Club, sport hunters, hunting organizations

· **Impacted Location:** All U.S. States and territories

#### *FWS and partners in Maine undertake conservation work to preclude the need to list the yellow-banded bumblebee*

· **Topic:** FWS, Xerces Society and Natural Resource Conservation Service in Maine have established a team work collaboratively with private landowners in Maine to ensure they continue their farming traditions while implementing voluntary conservation measures to preclude the need to list the yellow-banded bumblebee, for which a listing determination is needed by early 2018. The goal is

to have partners use the Working Lands for Wildlife program, which is a great tool to support landowners in ensuring they can maintain their land uses while supporting wildlife conservation and reducing regulatory burdens.

- **Supportive Stakeholders:** Xerces Society, Natural Resource Conservation Service

- **Impacted Location:** Maine

*North Dakota anglers to benefit from walleye stockings*

- **Topic:** Valley City NFH in Valley City, North Dakota, produced more walleye this year than in any other year in its 77-year history and in its 54 years of raising fish, Garrison Dam NFH in Riverdale, North Dakota, shipped a record number this year.

- **Supportive Stakeholders:** North Dakota Game and Fish Department, anglers

- **Impacted Location:** Fishing waters across the state of North Dakota

*Fish passage and transportation infrastructure in Kansas*

- **Topic:** FWS' National Fish Passage Program is contributing to recovery of endangered species, specifically Topeka shiner, while aiding local governments with rebuilding transportation infrastructure. At Washington Creek, a perched and undersized road crossing culvert was replaced with a bridge and channel restoration up stream. At Spring Creek, an undersized perched culvert was replaced with a free spanning bridge. Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks & Tourism has documented fish passage through both sites.

- **Supportive Stakeholders:** Douglas County, Kansas, Kansas Department of Transportation, Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks & Tourism

- **Impacted Locations:** Eastern Kansas

*FWS develops app to assess damage from tropical storms*

- **Topic:** FWS staff developed an app for data collection that can easily be used on location through a smart device. No additional equipment on the ground is required. This tool was used by the incident team in the aftermath of Hurricane Harvey and provided critical real-time information to others for immediate access

and analyzing. Southwest Region staff established an R4 Rapid Hurricane Assessment Group, an operations dashboard and created a blank feature service that is ready for data collection on Hurricane Irma by a smart device.

- **Supportive Stakeholders:** National support anticipated, including full support from congressional members, other federal and state agencies, and partners as well as local community and many others

- **Impacted Locations:** Coastal Texas and Florida

*Rescued sea turtles fully recovered and to be released*

- **Topic:** Three sea turtles, stranded in December 2014 and 2015, are returning to the Pacific Ocean on September 11. The road to recovery for these turtles was long, but the Seattle Aquarium, the Oregon Coast Aquarium, and SeaWorld San Diego all worked together to revive, treat, transport, and release them successfully. All three have already provided us with valuable information on how to treat threatened sea turtles and lessons continue as all three will be equipped with satellite transmitters to map their travels. Together, with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, we support the science behind these efforts to save sea turtles when they become stranded.

- **Supportive Stakeholders:** West Coast communities, animal rights groups, ocean advocates

- **Impacted locations:** Oregon, Washington, California

**From:** [Greg Sheehan](#)  
**To:** [Gale, Michael](#)  
**Cc:** [Jim Kurth](#); [Stephen Guertin](#); [Charisa Morris](#); [Foster, Maureen](#); [Wainman, Barbara](#); [Matthew Huggler](#); [Matthew Trott](#)  
**Subject:** Re: FishBites 09.12.17  
**Date:** Saturday, September 9, 2017 1:00:16 PM

---

These are great Michael. Thank you for the report. Have a nice few days off next week.  
Greg

Greg Sheehan  
Principal Deputy Director  
US Fish and Wildlife Service  
202-208-4545 office  
202-676-7675 cell

On Sep 9, 2017, at 10:57 AM, Gale, Michael <[michael\\_gale@fws.gov](mailto:michael_gale@fws.gov)> wrote:

Hello,

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Michael

--

Michael Gale

Deputy Chief of Staff (Acting), Director's Office  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

202.208.4923 (office)  
571.982.2158 (cell)

--

## **FishBites 09.13.17**

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- **Impacted locations:** Oregon, Washington, California

<FishBites-9.13.17.docx>

**From:** [Charisa Morris](#)  
**To:** [Maureen Foster](#)  
**Cc:** [Greg J. Sheehan@fws.gov](#); [Kurth Jim](#); [Stephen Guertin@fws.gov](#)  
**Subject:** Re: FWS Weekly Report 2017-08-09 - Invitation to edit  
**Date:** Wednesday, August 9, 2017 4:42:12 PM

---

On it!

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 9, 2017, at 2:40 PM, Maureen Foster <[maureen\\_foster@ios.doi.gov](mailto:maureen_foster@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

See questions below.

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:** "Skipwith, Aurelia" <[aurelia\\_skipwith@ios.doi.gov](mailto:aurelia_skipwith@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Date:** August 9, 2017 at 1:58:39 PM EDT  
**To:** Maureen Foster <[maureen\\_foster@ios.doi.gov](mailto:maureen_foster@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Cc:** Wendy Fink <[wendy\\_r\\_fink@ios.doi.gov](mailto:wendy_r_fink@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: FWS Weekly Report 2017-08-09 - Invitation to edit

Maureen,

Since FWS will authorize the import of lions from South Africa during 2017-2019, do we need to look into our regulations or our listing status/procedures of these species? Thanks.

In mid-August, FWS will announce that after reviewing updated information from South Africa, it will again authorize imports of wild and wild-managed lions from South Africa taken during 2017-2019. In 2016, FWS listed the lion in eastern and southern Africa as threatened under the ESA. FWS contacted each of the countries within this region that have conducted trophy lion hunts in the past few years to obtain information on the country's lion population, management of lions, and how sport-hunting has contributed to survival of the species. FWS then authorized the import of wild and wild managed lion sport-hunted trophies in 2016.

**Aurelia Skipwith**  
Deputy Assistant Secretary

for Fish and Wildlife and Parks

U.S. Department of Interior  
1849 C Street, NW, Room 3148  
Washington, DC 20240  
(202) 208-5837

On Wed, Aug 9, 2017 at 12:19 PM, Maureen Foster (via Google Docs) <[drive-shares-noreply@google.com](mailto:drive-shares-noreply@google.com)> wrote:

Maureen Foster has invited you to **edit** the following document:



FWS Weekly Report 2017-08-09



Here is the FWS portion of the weekly.  
Please edit using the SUGGEST key.  
Thanks.

Open in Docs

Google Docs: Create and edit documents online.

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

You have received this email because someone  
shared a document with you from Google Docs.



**From:** [Hoover, Craig](#)  
**To:** [Stephen Guertin](#)  
**Cc:** [Jim Kurth](#); [Gloria Bell](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Invitation: International Affairs issue @ Thu Aug 3, 2017 9am - 10am (craig\_hoover@fws.gov)  
**Date:** Thursday, August 3, 2017 10:26:10 AM  
**Attachments:** [Inf memo lion and elephant hunting 8-3-17 final.docx](#)

---

Steve/Jim/Gloria,

Please find attached an updated briefer that I hope hits all the marks we discussed on the phone.

Nonresponsive Records

Please let me know if you need anything else.

Best,

craig

On Wed, Aug 2, 2017 at 6:44 PM, Stephen Guertin <[stephen\\_guertin@fws.gov](mailto:stephen_guertin@fws.gov)> wrote:  
Craig -- call in is fine. Thx. Steve

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 2, 2017, at 6:06 PM, Hoover, Craig <[craig\\_hoover@fws.gov](mailto:craig_hoover@fws.gov)> wrote:

Ugh. Sorry to be difficult. I have an (b) (6) that I should be walking out of by 9 and can't now cancel. If you don't mind, you can reach me via cell at (b) (6).

craig

On Wed, Aug 2, 2017 at 5:46 PM, Stephen Guertin <[stephen\\_guertin@fws.gov](mailto:stephen_guertin@fws.gov)> wrote:

**International Affairs issue**

[more details »](#)

When Thu Aug 3, 2017 9am – 10am Eastern Time

Where Room 3357 ([map](#))

Video call [https://plus.google.com/hangouts/\\_/doi.gov/stephen-guertin](https://plus.google.com/hangouts/_/doi.gov/stephen-guertin)

Calendar [craig\\_hoover@fws.gov](mailto:craig_hoover@fws.gov)

Who

- [stephen\\_guertin@fws.gov](mailto:stephen_guertin@fws.gov) - organizer
- [craig\\_hoover@fws.gov](mailto:craig_hoover@fws.gov)
- [jim\\_kurth@fws.gov](mailto:jim_kurth@fws.gov)
- [gloria\\_bell@fws.gov](mailto:gloria_bell@fws.gov)

Going? **Yes** - **Maybe** - **No** [more options »](#)

Invitation from [Google Calendar](#)

You are receiving this email at the account [craig\\_hoover@fws.gov](mailto:craig_hoover@fws.gov) because you are subscribed for

invitations on calendar [craig\\_hoover@fws.gov](mailto:craig_hoover@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](#).

--

Craig Hoover  
Chief, Division of Management Authority  
International Affairs  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
5275 Leesburg Pike  
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803  
ph: 703-358-2162  
[www.fws.gov/international](http://www.fws.gov/international)

***[Sign up](#) for our e-newsletter to learn how we're working around the globe to protect species and their habitats!***



--

Craig Hoover  
Chief, Division of Management Authority  
International Affairs  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
5275 Leesburg Pike  
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803  
ph: 703-358-2162  
[www.fws.gov/international](http://www.fws.gov/international)

***[Sign up](#) for our e-newsletter to learn how we're working around the globe to protect species and their habitats!***



## INFORMATION/BRIEFING MEMORANDUM FOR THE DEPUTY SECRETARY

DATE: August 3, 2017  
FROM: Greg Sheehan, Acting Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
SUBJECT: Lion and Elephant ESA listings and the permitting process

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide background on lion and elephant listings under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), the process for obtaining authorization under the ESA to import sport-hunted trophies, and the status of ESA findings for certain African countries.

### BACKGROUND

In December 2015, The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) listed the lion subspecies *Panthera leo leo*, located in India and west and central Africa, as endangered and listed *Panthera leo melanochaita*, located in eastern and southern Africa, as threatened. The Service also finalized a 4(d) rule for *Panthera leo melanochaita* that included the requirement that an import permit would need to be obtained prior to the import of any lion specimen.

The African elephant is listed as threatened (throughout its range) under the ESA and trade in African elephant specimens is regulated by a Section 4(d) rule of the Act (50 CFR 17.40(e)). On June 6, 2016, the Service published a final rule amending the Section 4(d) rule to, among other things, require the issuance of an ESA permit for all imports of African elephant trophies and ivory.

The Service's International Affairs Program (IA) is responsible for making the required findings for both species prior to issuing an import permit. IA issued a total of 10,700 permits in the first half of last year for all activities for which it has permit issuance responsibility. In the half of this year, IA has issued approximately 21,000 permits.

Secretary Zinke hosted a meeting with several sport-hunting stakeholder groups on July 11, where import of sport-hunted lions and elephants were discussed. As an outcome of that meeting, the Service is evaluating the recommendations of these groups and intends to hold follow-up discussions to determine how we can more effectively work together to ensure that hunting is contributing to conservation of these species.

### DISCUSSION

In accordance with Service regulations for the implementation of the ESA (50 CFR 17.33), in order to issue an import permit for a personally hunted lion trophy, the applicant must demonstrate that the import of a sport-hunted lion trophy would enhance the propagation or survival of the species in the wild. However, for most sport-hunted trophy imports, the hunter typically does not have access to all of the information the Service needs to make a positive "enhancement finding." To address this issue, the Service undertakes direct efforts to gather the

information necessary to determine whether an “enhancement finding” can be made. To do so, the Service contacts the wildlife authority within the country where the trophy was taken to obtain information on the status of the species within the country, the management program for the species and how sport hunting is integrated into that management plan, how funds generated through hunting contribute to the conservation of the species, how local communities benefit from hunting operations, and other relevant information. Likewise, sport-hunted trophies of African elephants may only be authorized if the Service is able to find that the killing of the trophy animal will enhance the survival of the species, as called for in the 4(d) rule (50 CFR 17.40(e)).

Historically, more than 90% of sport-hunted lion trophies (approximately 400 per year) have been imported to the United States from South Africa. Therefore, the Service prioritized making an enhancement determination for South Africa. In October 2016, we completed a positive enhancement finding for “wild” and “wild-managed” lions from South Africa and a negative finding for “captive” lions. To date, the Service has authorized the import of nine wild/wild-managed lion trophies from South Africa taken in 2016. We have also denied five applications for the importation of captive-bred lions taken in South Africa in 2016.

Although initial findings for lions have taken more time than anticipated, in part due to the lack of information from the countries involved, once these findings are in place and baseline information has been obtained, we expect that additional country-level findings will require far less time.

As of August 3, 2017, we have the following pending applications for lions:

Mozambique –	3 applications for lions taken in 2016 or 2017
Namibia –	1 application for lion to be taken in 2017
Tanzania –	17 applications for lions taken in 2016 or 2017
South Africa –	11 applications for wild/wild-managed or captive-bred lions taken in 2017
Zambia –	17 applications for lions taken in 2016 or 2017
Zimbabwe –	17 applications for lions taken in 2016 or 2017

As of August 3, 2017, we have the following pending applications for elephants:

Namibia –	8 applications for elephants taken in 2014 (2 renewals), 2016 and 2017
Tanzania –	2 applications for elephants taken in 2016
South Africa –	7 applications for elephants taken in 2016 and 2017
Zambia –	1 applications for elephants taken in 2017
Zimbabwe –	37 applications for elephants taken in 2014 (3), 2016 or 2017

With regard to sport-hunted elephants, we currently have positive findings for the import of trophies from South Africa and Namibia. In 2014 and 2015, we completed negative findings for Tanzania and Zimbabwe, countries for which we previously had positive findings. We have not authorized the import of sport-hunted elephant trophies for any other countries that currently allow sport hunting. We are currently under litigation for our negative findings for both Tanzania and Zimbabwe.

## **NEXT STEPS**

Status of lion and elephant enhancement findings:

Mozambique – The Service has received information from Mozambique for both elephants and lions, and we are currently reviewing the material regarding the status of lions within the country and the management program that is currently in place for the species. Draft findings are underway.

Namibia – The Service has a positive finding for elephants. The Service has requested information regarding lions from Namibia on several occasions, but has not received any information regarding status of the lions in the country or the management regime for the species. Namibia has promised to provide that information as soon as possible, and we will undertake a review of that information when it is received.

Tanzania – The Service has received information from Tanzania regarding the status of lions and elephants and their management programs. The material has been reviewed and we anticipate completing these findings by the end of August.

South Africa – The Service has a positive finding for elephants. Based on information received from South Africa and other sources, the Service made a positive finding for wild/wild-managed lions taken in 2016 and a negative finding for captive-bred lions taken in 2016. We are currently revising the finding for wild/wild-managed lions taken between 2017 and 2019 (South Africa's lion management plan for wild/wild-managed lions is valid until the end of 2019). We have received no new information for captive-bred lions that would change our current negative finding. The new finding will be completed this week and we will proceed to issue or deny applications immediately.

Zambia – The Service has received information from the Zambia Wildlife Authority on the status of lions in Zambia and their hunting programs for both lions and elephants. We have reviewed this information and have a draft finding that is currently being reviewed. We anticipate completing the finding by mid-August.

Zimbabwe – The Service has received and reviewed the information provided by Zimbabwe for both elephants and lions. We have completed a new elephant finding and are developing a communications plan and *Federal Register* notice to announce this finding in August. A draft finding for lions is underway.

## **ATTACHMENTS**

None

**From:** [Grace, Edward](#)  
**To:** [Kashyap Patel](#); [Greg Sheehan](#); [Jim Kurth](#); [Stephen Guertin](#)  
**Cc:** [Morris, Charisa](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Memo format  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 25, 2018 2:57:40 PM

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Thanks, He wants to implement changes in the Wildlife Inspection procedures(dealing with hunting trophies/consistency) originating out of the last International Wildlife Conservation Council meeting he attended in Atlanta So it probably needs to be a letter and not a BP. He wants it done by the end of the week. I will get it up to both of you once we finish it  
so you can get it to him.

On Wed, Jul 25, 2018 at 2:35 PM, Kashyap Patel <[kashyap\\_patel@fws.gov](mailto:kashyap_patel@fws.gov)> wrote:

Actually, I pulled this out of DTS, it should work as a template if you need something more formal than a BP.

On Wed, Jul 25, 2018 at 1:46 PM Grace, Edward <(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)> wrote:

Greg wants me to write a memo from him to me on the wildlife inspection program. Do you have any templates or formats for memos from the principal deputy director to an AD.

Thanks

--  
Edward Grace  
Acting Assistant Director  
Office of Law Enforcement  
United States Fish and Wildlife Service  
703-358-1949

--  
[Kashyap\\_Patel@fws.gov](mailto:Kashyap_Patel@fws.gov) | acting Deputy Chief of Staff, Office of the Director | U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service  
| [1849 C Street NW, Room 3348 | Washington, DC 20240](#) | (202) 208-4923 | Txt/Cell: 703-638-4640

--  
Edward Grace  
Acting Assistant Director  
Office of Law Enforcement  
United States Fish and Wildlife Service  
703-358-1949

**From:** [Frazer, Gary](#)  
**To:** [Merkel, Rachel](#)  
**Cc:** [Lydia Collins](#); [Denise Sheehan](#); [Janine Velasco](#); [Jim Kurth](#); [Steve Guertin](#); [Martha Balis Larsen](#)  
**Subject:** Re: QFRs  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 12, 2018 1:07:47 PM  
**Attachments:** [Calvert Q19-21 Habitat Conservation Plans.docx](#)  
[Calvert Q33 Endangered Species Act v2.docx](#)  
[McCollum Q13-20 African Elephant Sport Trophy-Hunting \(1\) DAS comments.docx](#)  
[McCollum Q21-27 Advisory Board International Wildlife Conservation Council DAS comments.docx](#)  
[McCollum Q47-51 M Opinion DAS edits.docx](#)

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Rachel -- Jim Kurth got a note yesterday from DAS Aurelia Skipwith asking who could work with her to address some comments on the House Approps QFRs. Jim was kind enough to assign that to me, and I met with her this morning.

She conveyed that the DepSec had reviewed the QFRs from all the bureaus and had handed them all back (apparently to the A/S's) with direction to make them more reflective of Administration policy and Secretarial priorities. Aurelia then walked through them all with me and asked that we make some targeted changes, which I have reflected in the attached. She did not ask for or suggest any further review or revision to respond to the DepSec's direction.

AES had no changes needed for Calvert Q19-21 and only one minor change to Calvert 33. I've made that change to Calvert 33 in the attached, so we're done.

Her questions on McCollum Q13-20 (AIA) and McCollum 21-27 (AEA) are reflected in comment bubbles in the attached.

She asked for a specific edit to McCollum Q47-51 (AMB), which I made in the attached.

Jim and Steve are both out today, so in the interest of time would you work these with the affected program ADs and then run them back through Steve to Aurelia by COB Thursday?

Thanks. -- GDF

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

On Tue, Jun 12, 2018 at 11:51 AM, Merkel, Rachel <[rachel\\_merkel@fws.gov](mailto:rachel_merkel@fws.gov)> wrote:

Gary,  
Per our conversation, attached are the most recent versions of the House QFRs.

Let me know how we can help.

Thanks,

Rachel Merkel  
Chief of Budget Formulation

Division of Budget  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
703-358-2545

## Habitat Conservation Plans

DOI is in control of a very effective force multiplier that facilitates infrastructure development in a way that saves time, money, and avoids litigation all the while meeting obligations under the Endangered Species Act, namely Multi Species Habitat Conservation Plans (HCPs).

**Calvert Q19:** How can DOI most effectively staff so as to expedite the approval and maximize the impact of HCPs?

**Response:** The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is placing a priority on providing technical assistance for large, multi-species HCPs over project specific plans. In addition, through the 2016 Habitat Conservation Planning Handbook, the Service addresses how to streamline review processes and expedite approvals. The Service is also entering into agreements with applicants who are willing to provide funds for dedicated Service staff to specifically address the needs of their project and expedite the plan development and permitting process.

**Calvert Q20:** How can DOI best expand and expedite their planning and land acquisition grants?

**Response:** The Service is not requesting funding in the FY 2019 Budget request for HCP planning and land acquisition grants under the Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund, in order to support higher priorities. The Service will continue to provide technical assistance to States and landowners to expedite the approval and maximize the impacts of HCPs to the extent that resources permit.

**Calvert Q21:** How can DOI accommodate HCPs making necessary amendments to their plans without risking having to reopen their entire plan?

**Response:** The 2016 Habitat Conservation Planning Handbook (Chapter 17.4) provides specific guidance about HCP amendments. First, the guidance describes administrative changes that would be processed internally, would not require public notice and comment, and would therefore not reopen the plan. Second, the guidance makes clear that, when the scope of the amendment is such that it would require a *Federal Register* notice to seek public comment, the Service will limit public review to comments only on the proposed change and not reopen the entire HCP for revision.

## Endangered Species Act

**Calvert Q33:** I know you're well aware of State frustrations with implementation of the Endangered Species Act. We are beginning to see hints of a shift in the approach of the Fish and Wildlife Service under your leadership and with guidance from bipartisan members of this subcommittee. It is a shift towards a more collaborative ESA process with States treated as equal partners, as Congress intended.

We believe that recovery is a shared responsibility that does not default to the Fish and Wildlife Service. Although final decisions ultimately rest with the Service, nothing in law prohibits States from being involved in the process. Increasing collaboration throughout all phases of ESA implementation is in everyone's best interest.

The subcommittee will continue to foster this collaboration in several ways: (1) by incentivizing increased State and non-governmental organization involvement and leadership through matching grants; and (2) by directing the Fish and Wildlife Service to focus on ESA actions that are inherently Federal—in other words, actions that only the Federal government can do. For instance, there are still 49 species awaiting a formal downlisting or delisting.

Do you agree with this approach, and will you work with us to help make implementation of the Endangered Species Act a more collaborative process?

**Response:** The Service encourages and appreciates active participation from the States and other partners in all parts of recovery, including developing plans, implementing actions, and monitoring species on the ground. Longstanding strong support for State involvement in ESA implementation was reflected in the recent update to the Service's Interagency Policy Regarding the Role of State Agencies in ESA Activities (81 FR 8663, February 22, 2016). More recently, the Principal Deputy Director issued guidance on January 16, 2018, directing that all Species Status Assessment teams invite participation by each affected State. The Service looks forward to working with the Committee to encourage greater collaboration with States, Tribes, non-governmental organizations, and landowners in implementation of the ESA.

## African Elephant Sport Trophy-Hunting

On November 17, 2017 the Fish and Wildlife Service published a notice in the Federal Register that killing African elephant trophy animals in Zimbabwe, between January 2016 and December 2018, will enhance the survival of the African elephant and permit import of body parts. The Obama Administration banned elephant trophy hunting imports from Zimbabwe arguing the agency did not have strong enough reason to believe that the country was properly regulating trophy hunting.

The Service made this policy change at the time Zimbabwe was in the middle of a military coup.

**McCollum Q13:** Why was reviewing the trophy import policy a priority?

**Response:** The Service is obligated under the ESA and its implementing regulations to process permit applications, including for the import of sport-hunted trophies. The Service's review of available information led to a negative enhancement finding under the ESA for elephants taken in Zimbabwe during 2014 and 2015. More recently, the available information led to a positive enhancement finding for elephants taken in 2016 (on or after January 21), 2017, and 2018. In response to the D.C. Circuit Court's opinion in *Safari Club International, et al. v. Zinke, et al.*, No. 16-5358 (D.C. Cir., Dec. 22, 2017) the Service has since rescinded all of these country-wide findings and will process permit applications on a case-by-case basis.

**McCollum Q14:** What new analysis and evidence did the Service use as the basis for its withdrawal?

**Response:** When the Service issued a positive enhancement finding for 2016 (on or after January 21), 2017, and 2018, it did not withdraw the previous negative enhancement finding under the ESA for elephants taken in Zimbabwe during 2014 and 2015. Rather, the Service issued a new finding covering a different time period. The Service received substantial new and additional information regarding elephant status and management in Zimbabwe, including the adoption and implementation of a National Elephant Management Plan. This information was detailed in the positive finding which, as noted above, has since been rescinded.

**McCollum Q15:** Were any outside groups consulted before the Service made this decision?

**Response:** The Service receives and considers information from a variety of sources. The Service did not formally seek public comment via the *Federal Register* or go through a formal rule-making process, which was the basis for the D.C. Circuit Court's opinion that the negative 2014 and 2015 findings for Zimbabwe were invalid. In response to the D.C. Circuit Court's opinion, the Service has since rescinded all of these country-wide findings and will process permit applications on a case-by-case basis.

**McCollum Q16:** President Trump in a television interview with Piers Morgan criticized resuming trophy imports from Zimbabwe and said he turned that order around, why wasn't the Administration informed about this withdrawal before it happened?

**Response:** The Service did not withdraw a finding; rather, it issued a new finding covering a different time period. All of these findings have since been rescinded in response to the D.C.

Circuit Court's opinion in *Safari Club Int'l, et al. v. Zinke, et al.*, No. 16-5358 (D.C. Cir., Dec. 22, 2017).

**McCollum Q17:** Why was the turmoil within Zimbabwe not considered as a factor in favor of keeping the ban in place? Who approved moving forward on the release of the withdrawal at that time?

**Response:** Enhancement findings under the ESA are made by the Fish and Wildlife Service's Division of Management Authority. The actions within Zimbabwe during November 2017 were taken into consideration, and the Division of Management Authority issued a supplemental finding on November 24, 2017 suspending its positive enhancement finding for elephants taken on or after November 14, 2017, until clarity and certainty regarding governance in Zimbabwe could be verified. As noted above, all of these findings have since been rescinded in response to the D.C. Circuit Court's opinion in *Safari Club Int'l, et al. v. Zinke, et al.*, No. 16-5358 (D.C. Cir., Dec. 22, 2017).

**McCollum Q18:** On March 1, 2018 the Principal Deputy Director of the Fish and Wildlife Service issued a memorandum withdrawing, effective immediately, the 2014 and 2015 Endangered Species Act (ESA) enhancement findings for the head, tusks, and other body parts of hunted African elephants from Zimbabwe, and additionally withdrew ESA enhancement and CITES non-detriment findings for lions, elephants and bontetok in a number of other countries. Interior will now review requests on a case-by-case basis.

Discuss the basis for this decision when data on declining elephant populations carried on the Service website states, "Across Africa, an estimated 100,000 elephants were killed for their ivory between 2010 and 2012, and the continent-wide estimate for all elephants has now been revised downward to 420,000. Despite some progress in halting and stabilizing the resurgence of elephant poaching since 2011, in some areas, Africa's elephants are still being poached at higher rates than they can naturally reproduce."

**Response:** The Service's positive enhancement finding for Zimbabwe for 2016 (on or after January 21), 2017, and 2018, was based on substantial new and additional information regarding elephant status and management in Zimbabwe, including the adoption and implementation of a National Elephant Management Plan. This information addressed concerns raised in the previous negative finding for 2014 and 2015. However, as noted above, these findings have now been rescinded. The Service's decision to withdraw these and all other country-wide ESA enhancement findings was solely in response to the D.C. Circuit Court's opinion in *Safari Club Int'l, et al. v. Zinke, et al.*, No. 16-5358 (D.C. Cir., Dec. 22, 2017).

**McCollum Q19:** Discuss the process in place to review these requests, what office/personnel are responsible for making these determinations and what criteria are they using? How are conservation efforts being analyzed and considered? What are your estimates of the additional cost and time that will be spent examining and processing requests for the import of animal parts as trophies under the new policy of case-by-case review? Will the Service be tracking how many applications are filed and authorized that would have previously been denied under the ESA enhancement or CITES non-detriment findings withdrawn in the March 1 memorandum?

**Response:** The Service's Division of Management Authority processes thousands of permit applications each year, and most of these applications are reviewed on a case-by-case basis. With regard to those applications previously covered by a country-wide enhancement finding, the Service intends to use the information cited in these findings and contained in its files as appropriate, in addition to the information it receives and has available when it receives each application, to evaluate individual permit applications.

The Service is continuing to monitor the status and management of these species in their range countries. When the Service processes these permit applications, the Service will do so on an individual basis, including making ESA enhancement determinations and CITES non-detriment determinations when required, for each application. The Service will grant or deny permits to import a sport-hunted trophy on a case-by-case basis pursuant to its authorities under the ESA and CITES. As part of the permitting process, the Service reviews each application received for import of such trophies and evaluates the information provided in the application as well as other information available to the Service as to the status of and management program for the species or population to ensure that the program is promoting the conservation of the species. Each application must also meet all other applicable permitting requirements before it may be authorized.

The Service does not have an estimate of the additional cost or time required to process these applications on a case-by-case basis, though we note that this is already the case for most of the applications we process. [GDF1] We will maintain records of each application, including each permit issued or application denied.

**McCollum Q20:** How are you ensuring there is a clear connection between money that will be spent for these hunting trips and the conservation and protection of these iconic animals?

**Response:** Revenue generation is just one aspect the Service may consider in determining whether the import of a sport-hunted trophy enhances the survival of the species in the wild. In evaluating whether financial resources are being used for conservation, including protected area management, anti-poaching patrols, support to local communities, etc., we seek information [GDF2] from the governments directly as well as from other organizations and individuals.

## Advisory Board: International Wildlife Conservation Council

On November 8, 2017, Secretary Zinke announced the creation of a 16 member International Wildlife Conservation Council to provide advice and recommendations on the benefits that international recreational hunting has on foreign wildlife and habitat conservation, anti-poaching and illegal wildlife trafficking programs.

**McCollum Q21:** You have outlined that one of their duties will be to recommend removal of barriers to the importation of legally hunted wildlife. Does this include African elephants, lions and rhinos?

**Response:** Yes, the Council may consider importation barriers to legally hunted wildlife. In order to allow importation of legally hunted wildlife the Service must first make a finding that doing so enhances the survival of the species.

**McCollum Q22:** How have you ensured diverse perspectives are represented on this board?

**Response:** IWCC membership was selected to ensure it is fairly balanced in terms of the points of view represented and the functions to be performed as outlined in its charter.

**McCollum Q23:** Please outline the qualifications of these members:

- Of the 16 members, how many are sport hunters?
- How many members have scientific expertise in conservation?
- How many members have direct experience with the management of successful conservation programs?
- How many members do not have any financial or commercial stake in international trophy hunting?

**Response:** Membership qualifications are outlined in the IWCC Charter. Specifically, IWCC members are senior-level representatives of their organizations and/or have the ability to represent their designated constituency group: wildlife and habitat conservation/management organizations; U.S. hunters actively engaged in international and/or domestic hunting conservation; the firearms or ammunition manufacturing industry; archery and/or hunting sports industry; and tourism, outfitter, and/or guide industries related to international hunting. Membership of the Council can be found at <https://www.facadatabase.gov/committee/members.aspx?cid=2636>

**McCollum Q24:** Do you see any conflict with having members from Safari Club International when they contributed funds to your campaign for Congress?

**Response:** No, the Department of the Interior considers the opinions of many stakeholders as well as the best scientific information in developing policy and regulations. [GDF1]

**McCollum Q25:** In 2014, the Safari Club International and the National Rifle Association filed suit to challenge the Zimbabwe sport trophy-hunting ban despite statistics showing that in 2013 the Zimbabwe elephant population was 47,366 down from 84,416 in 2007? Does that give you any pause about their ability to objectively view facts and help make decisions? Are there any connections between these members and the Trump family?

**Response:** The Council was created and its members selected in order to advise the Secretary on a range of foreign wildlife and habitat conservation topics including developing recommendations to enhance anti-poaching and illegal wildlife trafficking programs.[GDF2]

**McCollum Q26:** What is the status of lion trophy hunting imports from Zimbabwe and Zambia?

**Response:** On March 1, 2018, the Fish and Wildlife Service issued a memo in response to the D.C. Circuit Court's opinion in *Safari Club Int'l, et al. v. Zinke, et al.*, No. 16-5358 (D.C. Cir., Dec. 22, 2017). In that memo, the Service withdrew, effective immediately, all country-wide findings, including those for lions in Zimbabwe and Zambia. These findings are no longer effective for making individual permit determinations for imports of sport-hunted lions. However, the Service intends to use the information cited in these findings and contained in its files as appropriate, in addition to the information it receives and has available when it receives each application, to evaluate individual permit applications. The Service intends to process permit applications on an individual basis, including making ESA enhancement determinations, and CITES non-detriment determinations when required, for each application. The Service intends to grant or deny permits to import a sport-hunted trophy on a case-by-case basis pursuant to its authorities under the ESA and CITES. As part of the permitting process, the Service reviews each application received for import of such trophies and evaluates the information provided in the application as well as other information available to the Service as to the status of and management program for the species or population to ensure that the program is promoting the conservation of the species. Each application must also meet all other applicable permitting requirements before it may be authorized.

**McCollum Q27:** What current litigation exists on these rulings?

**Response:** In addition to the SCI/NRA litigation noted above, there are two other cases that relate to these rulings (*Center for Biological Diversity, et al. v. Zinke, et al.*, No. 17-2504 (D.D.C.) and *Friends of Animals, et al. v. Zinke, et al.*, No. 17-2530 (D.D.C.)). The first case challenges the 2017 enhancement findings for elephants and lions from Zimbabwe and, through an amended complaint, the March 1, 2018, memo. The second case challenges the 2017 enhancement finding for elephants from Zimbabwe, while its second amended complaint proposes to also challenge the March 1, 2018, memo.

## Solicitor's Opinion on Migratory Bird Treaty Act

On December 22, 2017, the Principal Deputy Solicitor Exercising the Authority of the Solicitor Pursuant to Secretary's Order 3345, issued a memorandum stating the Migratory Bird Treaty Act does not prohibit incidental take. Shortly after this opinion was issued, seventeen former top Interior Department officials, both Republicans and Democrats, protested this "ill-conceived" new legal opinion that states the Migratory Bird Treaty Act protections only cover intentional acts.

**McCollum Q47:** What guidance have you given to the Fish and Wildlife Service on how to enforce this new legal opinion?

- Has instruction been given to the Fish and Wildlife Service about changing the Service manual?

**Response:** In February 2018, as a result of the new interpretation of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) removed the manual chapter relating to incidental take of migratory birds, "Incidental Take Prohibited Under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act" (720 FW3). On April 11, 2018, the Service issued general guidance to its Program and Regional Directors on implementation of the December 2017 Department of the Interior Solicitor's Office Opinion, M-37050. The guidance states that we will continue to fully implement the prohibitions on incidental take as defined under the Endangered Species Act and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act. It also states that we will continue to work with any partner who is interested in voluntarily reducing impacts to migratory birds and their habitats and provide recommendations for reducing these impacts through reviews under other authorities, such as NEPA and the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act. It directs that the Service will not withhold permits or requests or require mitigation based on incidental impacts under the MBTA. We will ensure any comments, recommendations or requirements we make are not based on – and do not imply - authority under the MBTA to regulate incidental take. Further policy and instruction may follow, as appropriate.

**McCollum Q48:** What will you do in the event of another Deepwater Horizon spill? Would you consider that to be "intentional" take or "accidental" take?

- In the Deepwater Horizon spill 1 million migratory birds were injured or killed. If the Department will no longer seek compensation for spills like Deepwater Horizon, how will you mitigate for such devastating impacts on migratory birds?
- Why don't you feel this new legal opinion favors the oil industry over the protection of migratory birds?

**Response:**

\_\_\_\_\_ responsible for these incidents will still be held accountable under the incidental take prohibitions in the Endangered Species Act and Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act, as well

as any applicable state laws. The M-Opinion applies to all industries equally, and the Department will continue to work with our industry partners to minimize impacts on migratory birds, whenever proponents or operators are willing to work with us toward this goal.

**McCollum Q49:** This legal opinion is contrary to the long-standing interpretation that has been in place since the 1970's.

- What standards have changed to justify reversing the long-standing interpretation?
- What analysis has been done on the impact of this opinion on bird populations?
- Why did the Department think the previous approach which enforced the Migratory Bird Treaty Act fairly in balancing the goals of economic progress with the impact of that progress on bird populations was not reasonable?

**Response:** U.S. courts are split on the question of whether or not the MBTA prohibits incidental take. The most recent Departmental review and analysis of case law, conducted by the Principle Deputy Solicitor and included in M-37050, describes the rationale used to determine that the MBTA does not prohibit incidental take.

**McCollum Q50:** On January 10, 2018, conservation professionals who all served in the Department of the Interior from 1971 to 2017, under Republican and Democratic administrations, wrote to Secretary Zinke to express concern about what they determined was “an ill-conceived opinion” and asked for its suspension.

- Why has the Department chosen to ignore this request to not prohibit the unregulated killing of birds?

**Response:** While some may disagree with M-37050, and how the MBTA was implemented and enforced in the past, the fact remains that U.S. courts are split on this question.

**McCollum Q51:** What incentive will industry now have to cover crude oil waste pits with nets to keep birds from landing in them if this opinion says there will be no action taken against them since they did not “intend” to kill birds?

**Response:** The Department will continue to offer technical expertise to willing industry and other partners to develop and/or apply best management practices to minimize the impacts of industrial and other human activities on migratory birds, and to comply with applicable state laws.

**From:** [Phu, Linh](#)  
**To:** [Zachariah Gambill](#)  
**Cc:** [Stephen Guertin](#); [Gale, Michael](#); [Charisa Morris](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Quick doc  
**Date:** Thursday, December 21, 2017 1:17:34 PM  
**Attachments:** [FWSHuntingFishingAccomplishmentOutreach.2017.docx](#)

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Zach-

As requested, attached is a document listing the accomplishments and outreach efforts of the FWS in 2017 under Secretary Zinke . It is grouped based on the major directive categories of S.O. 3356. I also included a list of all available hunting and fishing opportunities on Service lands in Fall 2017. Please edit as you see fit.

Please let me know if you need anything else. I will be on leave starting at noon tomorrow and will return on 12/28. Happy Holidays!

Sincerely, Linh Phu

\*\*\*\*\*  
Linh Phu  
S.O. 3356 Coordinator  
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Headquarters  
5275 Leesburg Pike  
Falls Church, VA 22041  
703-358-2575  
\*\*\*\*\*

On Wed, Dec 6, 2017 at 4:11 PM, Zachariah Gambill <[zachariah\\_gambill@fws.gov](mailto:zachariah_gambill@fws.gov)> wrote:

Linh,

Do you have a document that outlines how FWS has increased access for hunting and fishing under Secretary Zinke?

Could I get something soon?

Respectfully,

Zack

# **FWS Actions & Accomplishments** **to Expand Hunting and Fishing** **2017**

## ***Recreational Fishing***

***(Responsive to S.O. 3356 Directive 4.a.1 and 3347 Recommendations to Section 4.a.2)***

- Service solidifies commitment to “60 in 60” Initiative and Announcement Pending- The Service Director has signed the MOU committing the Service to the Recreational Boating and Fishing “60 in 60” initiative to increase fishing participation nationwide. The MOU will be announced jointly by the signatory agencies in the near future. Other signatory agencies include the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, American Sportfishing Association, National Marine Manufacturers Association, Recreational Boating and Fishing Foundation, as well as the Bureau of Land Management and the Forest Service.
- The Service announced the Notice of Funding Opportunity on Monday, October 23, 2017, for a five-year cooperative agreement for the National Outreach and Communication Program for sportfishing and boating with an emphasis on R3: recruitment, retention, reactivation. This funding provides approximately \$12 million annually for efforts to increase fishing and boating participation nationwide. The Recreational Boating and Fishing Foundation has been the recipient of previous funding opportunities.
- Senior staff from the Fish and Aquatic Conservation (FAC) and External Affairs programs met in October in Denver to develop a comprehensive communications plan. The communications plan will promote participation in fishing and boating and educate the public about the essential role the FAC program plays in sustaining recreational fisheries nationwide.
- The National Wildlife Refuge System is partnering with The Recreational Boating & Fishing Foundation to pilot their program Take Me Fishing™ First Catch Centers at Laguna Atascosa National Wildlife Refuge in Texas and John Heinz National Wildlife Refuge in Philadelphia. (Responsive to Sec 4.a.1 and S.O. 3347 Response to Sec 4.a.2, Recommendation to “Participate in RBFF’s pilot “First Catch Center” program to establish learning centers across the country that combine hands on activities with traditional lessons in fishing and boating skills and conservation.”)
- A Notice of Funding Award was advertised for the National Fish Habitat Partnership Program. These funds are used to protect, restore, and enhance fish and aquatic habitats, as outlined in the National Fish Habitat Action Plan. Projects funded under this program improve and restore aquatic habitat that can

support increases in fish populations, thus enhance recreational fishing opportunities. Funded projects may be carried out by Fish Habitat Partnerships (FHPs) recognized by the National Fish Habitat Board (Board) or the partners of Board recognized FHPs. Recipients under this program are usually state, or local government agencies; Native American governments; public, and private nonprofit institutions and organizations. Funding is pending and won't be committed to projects until there is an approved FY18 budget. (Responsive to Sec 4.a.1 and S.O. 3347 Recommendations to Sec 4.a.2)

- Construction crews are creating a one-acre artificial reef in the lower Cape Fear River in North Carolina. The reef is designed to enhance recreational fishing and create oyster reef habitat where fish can feed and spawn. The North Carolina Department of Marine Fisheries Artificial Reef Program has been continuously funded by the Sport Fish Restoration Program since 1985 and the Coastal Recreational Fishing License Grant Program. Supportive stakeholders include North Carolina Coastal Federation, Carolina Beach State Park, and the North Carolina Division of Marine Fisheries (Responsive to Sec 4.c.2)
- Southwest Louisiana Refuge Complex staff assisted The Nature Conservancy (TNC) with a “Fish the Reef” kayak fishing event to dedicate the recently-completed Oyster Reef Restoration Project in Calcasieu Lake along Sabine National Wildlife Refuge. A dozen kayak anglers from numerous local kayak clubs as well as Heroes on the Water, a veterans fishing organization, participated. Representatives from CE Shepherd, CITGO, Shell, Chevron, TNC, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Calcasieu Government Channel attended. (Responsive to Sec 4.c.3)
- Each October, Back Bay National Wildlife Refuge, VA, offers Special Use Permits for night surf fishing. Fisherman may fish on the beach until midnight. This year about two dozen anglers, male and female, purchased permits. (Responsive to 4.c.3 and S.O. 3347 recommendation in Sec 4(a)(2))
- Scores of national wildlife refuges across the country offer outstanding ice fishing. A feature story was distributed to the media on December 8 and was featured online as means to inform audiences of outstanding recreation offered by the Department of the Interior (Responsive to 4.c.3 and S.O. 3347 recommendation in Sec 4(a)(2)): <https://www.fws.gov/news/ShowNews.cfm?ref=ice-fishing:-thanks-for-the-family-memories-& ID=36199>
- The annual women-only fishing excursion organized by Trout Unlimited at Seedskadee National Wildlife Refuge, WY, has hooked many local women. For instance, Robin Robison always wanted to learn about fly fishing, but she didn't know how. She found few local resources aimed at engaging women in the sport. Then she found the Trout Unlimited program on the refuge's Green River. Read Robin Robison's account: <https://medium.com/@USFWS/women-on-the-water-4506643766e8>
- The Friends of the NW Hatcheries (WA) sponsor the two-day Wenatchee River Salmon Festival, held each fall to celebrate the return of the salmon to the Wenatchee River. The festival is held on the

grounds of the Leavenworth National Fish Hatchery. Activities include learning the basics of compound bow shooting and proper handling of equipment, free lessons on fly casting with fly rods provided, and the opportunity to tackle a 24-foot climbing wall. Participants can also meet representatives of the Seattle Coast Guard Auxiliary and take part in an activity that teaches the boating and water safety. On display are the latest snowmobiles with safety talks and trail opportunities for snowmobile enthusiasts or first time triers.

- The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and its partners removed the East Burke Dam in Burke, VT, restoring nearly 100 miles of the Passumpsic River system for increased fish passage and public recreation access. The action will improve fishing conditions for popular species like brook trout, burbot and suckers, all of which will experience easier migrations in the open river.
- Bozeman Fish Health Center, MT, coordinated efforts with the National Park Service to conduct pathogen screenings at three locations within Yellowstone National Park. Comprehensive health examinations were completed with the target pathogen being the parasite *Tetracapsuloides bryosalmonae*, or PKX. In 2016, PKX caused a massive fish kill in the Yellowstone River in Montana resulting in more than 180 miles of the river being closed to all recreational activity. The parasite was detected in native mountain whitefish, rainbow trout hybrids and brown trout from the Gallatin and Madison Rivers. Another parasite, *Myxobolus cerebralis*, which causes whirling disease in trout, was also detected in three species, including mountain whitefish, native Yellowstone cutthroat trout and rainbow trout. Results were provided to the National Park Service to assist in resource management decisions.
- More than 9,000 steelhead have returned to the Coleman National Fish Hatchery, CA, during Fall 2017, and they continue to enter the hatchery in record numbers. In comparison, the largest number of steelhead to enter the hatchery previously was 3,668 in the 2014/2015 spawning season. In mid-April 2018, the adults will be released into Battle Creek and the Sacramento River system, where they will be available to anglers.

***Expanding Access to Department Land and Waters (Responsive to S.O. 3356 Directive 4.a)***

- The Service announced a final rule to open or expand hunting and fishing opportunities across 132,000 acres on 10 national wildlife refuges. This will bring the number of refuges where the public may hunt up to 373, and up to 311 where fishing would be permitted. The rule published in the Federal Register on November 8. (Responsive to Sec 4.b.4)
- The Services External Affairs program launched the 2017 Fall Outdoor Traditions Campaign to promote hunting and fishing across the country highlight hunting and fishing as important activities supporting wildlife conservation, and acknowledge the critical role that U.S. hunters play in supporting well-managed hunting overseas. From September 1 to October 23 hunting has been mentioned 683 times

across all USFWS accounts while fishing was mentioned 420 times across all USFWS accounts.  
(Responsive to Sec 4.b.3)

- The Service launched its Hunting Website in September where visitors can read stories on hunting, find an interactive map where to hunt on National Wildlife Refuges, purchase federal duck stamps, and find links to state partner agencies to obtain state hunting licenses. In October alone, the website featured eight stories on our hunting heritage. As of October 23, the website been viewed 5,933 times and featured a total of 20 stories on hunting and fishing to date. <https://www.fws.gov/hunting/>  
(Responsive to Sec 4.b.3)
- The Service launched the Refuge Hunting Opportunities Website highlighting refuges where visitors can hunt and types of game: <https://www.fws.gov/refuges/hunting/>
- The Service launched the website “Quality fishing opportunities” highlighting fishing opportunities on more than 270 national wildlife refuges: <https://www.fws.gov/refuges/fishingguide>

#### ***Youth and Veteran’s Outreach Efforts (Responsive to S.O. 3356 Directive 4.c.3)***

- On November 9, the Service’s Office of Diversity and Inclusive Workforce Management and External Affairs - Division of Partners and Intergovernmental Affairs hosted the Service’s observance of Veterans Day 2017. The event featured 2 partner organizations, Honored American Veterans Afield and Rivers of Recovery, that discussed their efforts to use recreation shooting, hunting, fly fishing, and other outdoor recreational activities to transition injured and returning veterans after deployments abroad. Two presenters, Rick Cicero and Gunny Reyes, highlighted the beneficial impacts of outdoor recreation in helping injured and wounded soldiers acclimate to life after substantial injuries resulting from combat deployments. Participants also highlighted partnership opportunities (focused on recreational shooting, fishing, and hunting) between veteran-serving organizations and the Service. The event built on the recent Veterans access listening session held at the Interior Department Deputy. Director Steve Guertin helped emcee the event. (Responsive to S.O. 3356 Sec. 4 c.3)
- In 2017, The Service has partnered with veterans groups including Wounded Warriors, Operation Outdoor Freedom, Project Healing Waters, Soul River, Inc, Department of Veterans Affairs, and Freedom Hunters to hold 24 Veterans Hunting and Fishing events around the country. Of those 24 events, 16 were specifically for disabled veterans. This year to commemorate our veterans and their service, several National Wildlife Refuges held special hunts for veterans including:
  - Klamath Basin Refuge Complex provided afternoon access for several Marine and Army veterans from California and Nevada to waterfowl hunt areas after regular shoot time on November 4.

- In partnership with the non-profit Freedom Hunters, the Rhode Island Refuge Complex hosted an annual two-day deer hunt over Veterans Day weekend where six veterans/hunters are selected by Freedom Hunters to participate in the special muzzleloader hunt.
  - Wallkill NWR, NJ offers a special two-day, deer hunt for disabled veterans and non-veterans in cooperation with the New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife and the National Wild Turkey Federation.
  - Chincoteague NWR, VA, also partners with the Freedom Hunters to provide hunting opportunities to disabled veterans and their families free of charge.
  - J.N. “Ding” Darling NWR, FL, hosted a refuge tour for the Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing “Fish with a Hero” event. This community-based, nonprofit volunteer organization is dedicated to the physical and psychological rehabilitation of injured active-duty military personnel and veterans with disabilities by employing the therapeutic and rehabilitative benefits of fly fishing, patience, and relationship-building.
  - Bears Bluff NFH assisted Ernest F. Hollings ACE Basin NWR, SC, with its annual mobility hunt the week of Veteran’s Day, providing opportunities for disabled veterans to get in the field and hunt.
  - Chincoteague Refuge Complex, VA, kicked off the hunting season on October 7 with expanded hunting opportunities, including the Freedom Hunters (wounded veterans). The complex has increased both the number of hunts and the number of days that hunters can be in the field. (These events are responsive to Responsive to Sec 4.c.3)
- Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program biologists actively facilitate the National Archery in the Schools Program, introducing our partners to bowhunting, which can lead to other wildlife dependent activities such as wildlife viewing and photography. Working with State wildlife agencies, the Partners Program is implementing the National Archery in Schools Program. For example in Oklahoma, approximately 100 schools are enrolled with more than 1,000 participants. (Responsive to Sec 4.c.3)
  - On November 11, Service staff from Region 8 (including Regional Office staff and staff from the Carlsbad Fish & Wildlife Office, San Diego National Wildlife Refuge Complex, Seal Beach National Wildlife Refuge, and the Sony Bono Salton Sea National Wildlife Refuge) participated in the 2nd annual Urban Kids Fishing Derby held at the Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area in Los Angeles, CA. The event, hosted by Urban American Outdoors TV, gave over 100 youth from neighborhoods in and around Los Angeles the opportunity to try their hands at recreational fishing, some for the first time. Service staff provided educational information and helped participants by baiting hooks, untangling knots, and repairing rods and reels. (Responsive to S.O. 3356 Sec. 1)

- John Heinz National Wildlife Refuge at Tinicum, PA, taught more than 200 students in Philadelphia the art of archery last school year and is now expanding the program. The students had no previous experience with archery, the world's oldest means to hunt. Additionally, in summer 2017, two hour-long classes provided basic instruction to yet more people. In spring 2018, the refuge will offer free archery programming to anyone older than 10 who wants to try the sport. A U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service ranger will stand beside each newcomer as they launch their very first shot as a personalized, safe and engaging way to introduce people to the sport.  
(<https://usfwsnortheast.wordpress.com/2017/11/13/archery-in-philadelphia-byo-action-star/>)  
(Responsive to S.O. 3356 Sec. 4.c.3)
- The Service continues to offer quality hunting and mentoring programs to youth including the following events:
  - On October 21, Wallkill River National Wildlife Refuge, NJ, held its Youth Mentored Deer Hunt in partnership with the National Wild Turkey Federation. The partnership for these hunts stretches back to 2014. The program offers beginner youth hunters the opportunity to learn about deer biology, take part in a mentor-guided deer hunt and learn how to butcher their own deer.
  - Parker River National Wildlife Refuge, MA, Annual Youth Waterfowl Hunt celebrated 52 years on October 14, when the refuge hosted six youth. The youth waterfowl hunt began in 1965. Each youth is mentored by a member of a passionate group of local volunteers. Prior to the hunt day, each youth hunter is required to attend a waterfowl identification course by the Division of Refuge Law Enforcement as well as a general hunt orientation that covers the overall aspects of water-owling to include methods, gear, regulations and safety.
  - Flint Hills National Wildlife Refuge, KS, partnered with Ducks Unlimited for its annual Youth Waterfowl Hunt in early November. Waders, decoys and mentors were provided to the 16 youth who attended.
  - The FWS has worked close partnership with the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation (ODWC) to host quality hunting opportunities for youth (and others) on National Wildlife Refuges. Many of the hunting permits on Service Lands were drawn and issued through the ODWC Controlled hunt systems. Special hunting opportunities included:
    - Youth deer hunt in November at Little River NWR
    - Youth white tailed deer hunt for 23 youths at Salt Plains NWR
    - Youth muzzleloader hunt at Sequoyah NWR
    - Youth Hunt at Tishomingo NWR
    - Two Youth Hunts at Washita NWR

- San Bernard National Wildlife Refuge (TX) works with Texas Parks and Wildlife Department's Nannie M. Stringfellow Wildlife Management Area to provide youth, a deer and feral hog hunting opportunity.
- Balcones Canyonlands Refuge (TX) hosted 39 youths on Veteran's Day weekend deer hunt.
- On December 9th, 19 students from Iowa State University, participated in the first mentored pheasant hunt at Neal Smith National Wildlife Refuge (IA):  
<https://www.fws.gov/midwest/news/NealSmithMentoredHunt.html>
- St. Marks NWR (FL) hosted its Youth Deer Hunt on December 1-3. The hunt was conducted in cooperation with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission's Education program. The hunt included 10 youth, six girls and four boys, who each had the opportunity to hunt with three different mentors in three different blinds over the weekend. Only six of the participants had hunted before, and none of the youth had ever harvested a deer. Seven of the ten youth successfully harvested game during the hunt, and all of the youth participated in the education sessions on how to care for the harvested game and the meat.
- Wonderful Waterfowl and Kids Duck Calling Contest was held on December 9 at Illinois River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge Complex (IL).
- Ninigret National Wildlife Refuge (RI) hosted its fourth annual deer hunt for youth hunters on December 2-17. The special deer hunt is a lottery hunt in which eight youth are randomly selected to receive a permit to hunt during the firearm season. It is also a mentorship event.
- Crab Orchard National Wildlife Refuge (IL) is hosting its annual Youth Waterfowl Workshop and Hunt on December 15-16.
- Georgia Outdoor News magazine published an article on the 22nd annual Savannah NWR mobility impaired hunt. Thirteen hunters harvested a total of eight deer:  
<http://www.gon.com/news/savannah-nwr-hunt-yields-18-point-non-typical-buck>

***Dedicated Staffing (Responsive to S.O. 3356 Directive 4.d.1)***

- Principal Deputy Director Greg Sheehan finalized the appointment of the eight Regional Hunting and Fishing Chiefs who will report to Aaron Mize, NWRS Chief of Hunting and Fishing for a minimum of one year, starting November 6th, 2017. The Regional Hunting and Fishing Chiefs have been identified as: Region 1- Laila Lienesch, Region 2- Rob Larranaga, Region 3- Deborah Beck, Region 4- Kevin Lowry, Region 5- Chris Dwyer, Region 6- Otto Jose, Region 7- Ryan Mollnow, and Region 8- Curt McCasland. The Regional Hunting and Fishing Chiefs will meet face to face for their first kickoff

meeting in Headquarters from November 14th to November 17th. (Responsive to Sec 4.d.1 to Sec 4.d.4 and recommendations in S.O. 3347).

- Principal Deputy Director Sheehan signed the Regional Hunting and Fishing Chiefs team charter, outlining the purpose, roles, and responsibilities of the Regional Hunting and Fishing Chiefs. The team will lead a national effort to implement S.O. 3347, S.O. 3356 and all relevant Service regulation, policy and guidance to enhance access and opportunities necessary to promote recruitment, retention, and reactivation of the American sportsman and woman (sportsmen) Their major task for 2018 is a review of all Service Hunting regulations and provide recommendations to align with state regulations.(Responsive to Sec 4.d.1 to Sec 4.d.4 and recommendations in S.O. 3347)

### ***Waterfowl (Responsive to S.O. 3356 Directive 4.d.6)***

- Worked with the Flyway Councils and the Canadian Wildlife Service, implementation of the international Adaptive Harvest Management protocol for black ducks has resulted in an additional bird in the daily bag for the 2017 hunting season increasing the daily limit from 1 to 2 birds for the first time since 1983
- Worked with the North American Waterfowl Management Plan Human Dimensions Work Group and Flyway Councils, nation-wide stakeholder surveys of waterfowl hunters, viewers, and the general public were conducted in the summer of 2017. Analyses are currently underway to summarize the survey results to inform implementation of the 2012 North American Waterfowl Management Plan and 2018 Update.
- The Migratory Bird Program's Federal Duck Stamp Office interacted with more than 2,000 waterfowl hunters and other members of the sporting public at the Easton Waterfowl Festival, held Nov. 9-12 in Easton, Md. Marshall Critchfield, special advisor in the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks, introduced 2018-2019 Federal Duck Stamp artist Bob Hautman during the festival's Premiere Night event, an annual ritual that marks the first public appearance for the new duck stamp artist. The Duck Stamp Program's booth at the festival offered stamps for sale to hunters, collectors and other sportsmen, engaged youth and adults alike with a display of Junior Duck Stamp artwork created by our nation's future sports enthusiasts and conservationists. (Responsive to Sec 4.a.1 and S.O. 3347 Recommendations to Sec 4.a.2)
- On Nov. 18 and 19, the Federal Duck Stamp Office and 2018-2019 Federal Duck Stamp artist Bob Hautman participated in the Wildlife Art Festival at Bass Pro Shops in Rancho Cucamonga, CA, engaging with 750 hunters and other outdoor enthusiasts. Sponsored by the San Bernardino County Fish and Game Commission and Bass Pro Shops, the festival has since 1983 marked the West Coast debut of the new Federal duck Stamp artist. The festival has grown and evolved since it was established, while maintaining its focus on wildlife and conservation.(Responsive to Sec 4.1.2 and S.O. 3347 Recommendations to Sec 4.a.2)

***Working with State, Local, Tribal Wildlife Agencies (Responsive to S.O. 3356 Directive 4.d and recommendations in S.O. 3347)***

- In Early November, Northeast Region Deputy Regional Director Deb Rocque and Northeast Region Assistant Regional Director of Science Applications Ken Elowe met with directors from the 14 Northeast and Mid-Atlantic States and the District of Columbia at the Northeast Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies fall meeting to talk about how FWS and states can collaborate to recruit, retain, and reactivate hunters and anglers. They also discussed Conservation without Conflict, a coalition developing in the eastern United States that includes landowners, federal and state agencies, industry, and non-governmental organizations seeking to preclude the need to list at-risk species and recover endangered and threatened species while keeping farms, ranches, forests and defense installations working for people and wildlife. The meeting included State Fish and Wildlife Agency Directors from Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut, New York, Rhode Island, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and District of Columbia. (Responsive to Sec 4.d.2 to 4.d.4 and recommendations in S.O. 3347)
- The Service has been supporting state led chronic wasting disease (CWD) management since 2004. The Service's Wildlife Health Office has funded projects across 43 National Wildlife Refuges in 12 states. Work has included sample collection and research, risk assessment modeling, and planning, response, and management activities that support state led management activities of CWD on cervid game species including mule deer, white tailed deer, elk, and moose. On October 26, 2017, Lee Jones (FWS Wildlife Health Office) presented on the Services CWD management support program at an inter-agency meeting on CWD in Prairie du Chien, WI. This meeting is a proactive effort by the Refuge System to engage with the states of Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, and Wisconsin on how best to support state led CWD management efforts. This particular meeting is a result of several years of engagement from the Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge that serves as boundary water for these four states. Originally, the State of Illinois had reached out for assistance on CWD response on Refuge lands should it occur. (Responsive to S.O. 3356, Sec 4.d.4)
- The Service, Bureau of Land Management, and the U.S. Forest Service announced on October 30, 2017 a new memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies (AFWA), the American Sportfishing Association (ASA), the National Marine Manufacturers Association (NMMA) and the Recreational Boating & Fishing Foundation (RBFF). The MOU was created to develop and expand cooperation among the participating parties for planning and implementing mutually-beneficial projects and activities to promote recreational fishing and boating conducted on public lands and waterways. Full release available at <http://news.takemefishing.org/new-mou>.

- The Partners for Fish and Wildlife (Partners) and Coastal Programs worked directly with 26 Sportsmen's organizations including Ducks Unlimited, Pheasants Forever, the Ruffed Grouse Society, Trout Unlimited and other local fish, hunt and gun clubs this past year. Working together in public/private partnerships, the Partners and Coastal Programs completed 347 habitat projects, restoring and enhancing 7,793 upland acres, 6,835 wetland acres and 119 miles of river and stream habitat to support healthy wildlife population populations for hunting and fishing in 2017. (Responsive to Sec 4.d.3)
- Service Leaders including: Barbara Wainman, Assistant Director External Affairs, Shaun Sanchez, Deputy Chief. National Wildlife Refuge System met on November 29 with Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (AFWA) senior staff to discuss working collaboration and communication on S.O. 3356. (Responsive to 4.d.1 through 4.d.5 and S.O. 3347 recommendation in Sec 2(a), 2(c), 2 (d), 2(e))
- The Service Directorate Team met w/ AFWA Executive Committee on 12/5/17 (Responsive to 4.d.1 through 4.d.5 and S.O. 3347 recommendation in Sec 2(a), 2(c), 2 (d), 2(e))
- Representatives from the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service are collaborating to promote waterfowl hunting and waterfowl watching opportunities on national wildlife refuges, other public lands and other places across the two states this winter and in ensuing years (Responsive to 4.d.1 to 4.d.4)

## Sportsman's Outreach Efforts - Fall 2017

DATE	TITLE	DESCRIPTION	DOI OFFICIAL
TBD	“Restoring the Refuges” Initiative Announced	Service initiative to increase funding for National Wildlife Refuges	Video produced FWS. On hold for Budget.
8/2/17	Sportsman’s Access Ramp Up Summit	Over 50 organizations for hunting, fishing, and shooting sports gathered at Main Interior.	Ryan Zinke, David Bernhardt, Todd Willens, Greg Sheehan
8/9/17	Hunting and Fishing Expanded at 10 National Wildlife Refuges	Announced proposal to expand hunting and fishing at 10 national wildlife refuges; bringing it up to 373 open to hunting and 312 to fishing.	FWS News Release
8/10/17	Sabinoso Wilderness Open to Hunting, etc. (New Mexico)	Process finalized for accepting land donation for Sabinoso Wilderness; includes access for hunting, etc.	DOI News Release
8/30/17	Wildlife and Hunting Heritage Conservation Council (WHHCC) rebooted	Teleconference to discuss implementing S.O. 3347, to increase outdoor recreation opportunities.	Jim Kurth (FWS)
8/31/17	International Importation Approvals (South African Lion)	Approval of the import of lion trophies taken in South Africa during permitted hunts.	International Affairs program
8/31/17	Blog on South African Lion decision	Open Spaces blog explaining South African Lion decision	HQ External Affairs posting
8/30/17	National Shooting Sports Month	Secretarial Proclamation enhancing recognition of shooting sports.	DOI, FWS
8/31/17	Opening Day Dove Hunt Social Media Messages	Posted August 31 Twitter message on opening of dove season and hunting seasons generally across U.S.	FWS HQ EA, HQ Migratory Bird Program
9/1/17	Everything You Need to Know About Hunting on Public Lands	Posted online information and resources about hunting opportunities on public lands.	DOI News Release
9/7/2017	National Hunting and Fishing Preliminary Survey Results Released	Announced preliminary findings of the 2016 National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, and Wildlife-Associated	DOI News Release

		Recreation.	
9/7/17	Announcement of NAWCA Grants by MBCC	Announced award of grants that support wetlands conservation and public lands access.	DOI News Release
9/11/17	Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies (AFWA) Conference Keynote	Sheehan and Bernhardt delivered remarks at the plenary session.	Greg Sheehan & David Bernhardt
9/15/17	Launch of “Autumn of Hunting” communications campaign	Implement approximately 6 week communications campaign focused on hunting	FWS HQ EA, programs and regions
9/16/17	Duck Stamp Ceremony - University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point	Announce the winner of the 2017 Migratory Bird and Hunting Conservation Stamp art contest.	HQ Migratory Bird Program, FWS HQ EA
9/18/17	Secretarial Order to support and enhance hunting and fishing	Announcement that DOI bureaus will be submitting plans to increase hunting and fishing access and opportunities.	DOI News Release
9/18/17	Fish & Wildlife Service News	Summer issue of <i>Fish &amp; Wildlife Service News</i> released highlight outdoor recreation.	<i>Fish &amp; Wildlife Service News</i>
9/20/17	Wonders of Wildlife Museum – Springfield Event	Attend the opening ceremony for the Wonders of Wildlife Museum.	Secretary & Greg Sheehan
9/21/17	National Hunting and Fishing Month	Secretary Proclamation for October to recognize impacts of hunters/anglers.	DOI News Release and Congressional outreach
9/23/17	National Public Lands Day	Blog post encouraging volunteering and recreation public lands.	FWS HQ EA, programs, and regions
10/3/17	Private Lands Partners Day (Bangor, Maine)	Gathering of private landowners with Partners in Conservation.	Greg Sheehan spoke at the event
10/9/17	National Wildlife Refuge Week	Series of outreach events, including hunting/fishing events, and Congressional resolutions.	Cynthia Martinez, National Wildlife Refuge System, FWS HQ EA
October	Hunting and Fishing Expanded at 10 National Wildlife Refuges	Announcement of final rule to expand hunting and fishing at 10 national wildlife refuges.	Cynthia Martinez, National Wildlife Refuge System, FWS HQ EA

10/4/17	National Assembly of Sportsmen's Causes	Presentation on WSFR license certification	CLA
10/26/17	Celebrating Veterans and Sportsmen	Special event with the Secretary to highlight sportsmen and veterans.	Greg Sheehan

## **Service Hunting and Fishing Events (National Wildlife Refuges and National Fish Hatcheries)**

### **ALABAMA**

**Event Name:** Wheeler NWR Catch and Release Fishing Event

**Description:** Wheeler NWR will be hosting a fishing event in conjunction the Clarks River NWR Open House. The catch and release event will be open to children, ages 5 - 12 and will be held at the special use catfish pond at the Visitor Center.

**Date:** October 7, 2017

**Location:** Wheeler NWR

**City and State:** Decatur, AL

**Partners Involved**

**Event Name:** Eufaula Youth Deer Hunts

**Description:** Eufaula NWR will host two youth deer hunts on October 7 and October 21.

**Date:** October 7 - 21

**Location:** Eufaula NWR

**City and State:** Eufaula, AL

**Partners Involved**

### **ALASKA**

**Event Name:** Tetlin NWR Hunters Safety Clinics

**Description:** Tetlin National Wildlife Refuge will coordinate 2 Hunter's Safety clinics and 3-4 trapping clinics throughout the Upper Tanana Villages (Eagle, Northway, Tetlin, Tok, Tanacross and Mentasta) before the end of October

**Date:** End of October

**Location:** Tetlin NWR

**City and State:** Tetlin, AK

**Partners Involved**

**Event Name:** Selawik NWR Science Culture Camp

**Description:** Each fall for the past 15 years, the Selawik National Wildlife Refuge partners with students, elders, teachers, and community members from the Inupiaq village of Selawik to celebrate their connection to land and culture at a Science-Culture Camp. The camp will take place again this September.

**Date:** September

**Location:** Selawik NWR

**City and State:** Selawik, AK

**Partners Involved:** Selawik Science-Culture Camp

**Event Name:** Anchorage Fishing Educational Program – Journey of Firsts

**Description:** Program connects club members to safe fishing opportunities and information about pacific salmon, aquatic ecology, and related topic information. For many this is their first time fishing. Summer

program is led by Directorate Fellowship Program intern, under the guidance of Region 7 Fisheries Outreach Coordinator. *Summer program ends this week.*

**Date:** End of Summer

**Location:** Anchorage

**City and State:** Anchorage, AK

**Partners Involved:** Journey of Firsts

**Event Name:** Togiak NWR Hunting and Fishing Youth Programs

**Description:** Togiak NWR has the following events planned: Sept 13 -- Wildlife Wednesday. Hunting related activities for youth at the Dillingham Public Library; Sept 30 -- National Public Lands Day, Open house at Togiak NWR Offices, including hunting and fishing activities; Oct 9-13 -- National Wildlife Refuge Week presentations at Dillingham Elementary School; Oct 11 -- National Wildlife Refuge Week presentations at Aleknagik Elementary School.

**Date:** September and October

**Location:** Togiak NWR, Dillingham Public Library and Aleknagik Elementary School

**City and State:** Togiak, AK

**Partners Involved:** Aleknagik Elementary School

**Event Name:** Kokukuk/Nowitna NWRs Federal Moose Hunt

**Description:** Koyukuk/Nowitna National Wildlife Refuges: a federal moose hunt will be administered Sept 26 - Oct 1 as well as a couple winter hunts for moose.

**Date:** September 26 – October 1, 2017

**Location:** Koyukuk and Nowitna NWRs

**City and State:** Koyukuk and Nowitna, AK

**Partners Involved**

## ARIZONA

**Event Name:** Havasu Friends and Family Fun Day

**Description:** Annual refuge event for local families to engage in several different activities including fishing, archery, birding, and hiking.

**Date:** October 10, 2017

**Location:** Catfish Paradise, Havasu National Wildlife Refuge

**City and State:** near Needles, CA and Golden Shores, AZ

**Partners Involved:** Friends organization, Arizona Game and Fish Department, Bureau of Land Management.

## ARKANSAS

**Event Name:** Mammoth Springs NFH 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Hunting and Fishing Day / Fishing Derby

**Description:** The event is currently scheduled to run from 10 am - 2 pm and will include a fishing pond, inflatable archery station and hunting and fishing related stations. Last year's event had 75 participants and we anticipate this year's event being even larger. We are in the process of finalizing all of the details and creating a flyer and Facebook Event page

**Date:** September 23, 2017

**Location:** Mammoth Springs National Fish Hatchery

**City and State:** Mammoth Springs, AR

**Partners Involved**

**Event Name:** Norfolk NFH Annual Outdoor Adventure Days

**Description:** Includes fly fishing in Dry Run Creek and everything from kayaking to archery and bb guns and everything in between that is outdoor related.

**Date:** September 9, 2017

**Location:** Norfolk NFH

**City and State:** Mountain Home, AR

**Partners Involved**

**CALIFORNIA**

**Event Name:** Waterfowl hunt blind volunteer work party and pre-season hunter informational meeting

**Description:** Duck hunting season is fast approaching and the refuge needs your help! The refuge relies on volunteers to maintain the hunt blinds. A work party has been set for Saturday, . Meet by the Pond A2E kiosk in Mountain View. Join us at the Environmental Education Center located 1751 Grand Blvd. afterwards for a hunters informational meeting at 1 p.m. The informational meeting will go over all the waterfowl hunting opportunities across the San Francisco Bay NWR Complex and includes discussion on Salinas River NWR walk-in hunt areas, and how hunters can access boat only hunt areas within the San Pablo Bay NWR.

**Date:** Sept 16 from 9 a.m. to about 12 p.m; 1 pm -3 pm

**Location:** Don Edwards San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge

**City and State:** Mountain View, CA & Alviso, CA.

**Partners Involved:** California Waterfowl Association (annual helps publicize our event through social media), Ducks Unlimited (They won't be in attendance, but we highlight the various ways they have helped us plan for restoration of refuge habitat as part of the South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project. We will be highlighting for hunters this year what to expect from Phase 2 restoration projects and DU's securing 1 million dollar NAWCA grant that will go towards these restoration efforts)

**Event Name:** Tule Lake & Lower Klamath NWRs Disabled Veterans Waterfowl Hunt

**Description:** This hunt serves approximately 15 veteran hunters during the general hunting season. Veterans are allowed to shoot after 1:00 p.m. (regulated ending shoot time on these Refuges) to the end of state regulated shooting time. Partner manages sign ups and provides volunteers to guide or assist hunters on the Refuges.

**Date:** November 4, 2017

**Location:** Tule Lake and Lower Klamath National Wildlife Refuges

**City and State:** Tule Lake, CA

**Partners Involved:** California Waterfowl Association, Redding CA chapter.

**Event Name:** Advanced Hunter Education Course – Waterfowl Hunting Clinic

**Description:** The California Department of Fish and Wildlife is offering an advanced waterfowl hunting clinic. This advanced hunter education course will cover topics including duck calling, hunter safety, decoy placement, blind design, ballistics, game care, hunting on state and federal lands, and hunting regulations.

**Date:** September 9, 2017

**Location:** San Luis NWR

**City and State:** Los Banos, CA

**Partners Involved:** California Department of Fish and Wildlife

**Event Name:** Opening Day of Waterfowl Hunting Season at San Luis NWR

**Description:** Opening day of California's Balance of the State Zone will occur at the San Luis NWR. The refuge manages seven hunt units that provide hunting opportunities in free roam areas, assigned zones, assigned blinds, and river units accessed by boat. On opening day the refuge is expected to offer full traditional capacity of 320 hunters at a time. Additional hunt units on the refuge traditionally open later in November, increasing hunter opportunity mid-season.

**Date:** October 21, 2017

**Location:** San Luis NWR

**City and State:** Los Banos, CA

**Partners Involved:** California Department of Fish and Wildlife

**Event Name:** Opening Day of Waterfowl Hunting Season at Merced NWR

**Description:** Opening day of California's Balance of the State Zone will occur at the Merced NWR. The Refuge provides assigned blind hunting opportunities on opening day, with assigned zone hunt areas and goose blind hunt areas opening later in the season. On opening day the refuge will have capacity for 33 hunters.

**Date:** October 21, 2017

**Location:** Merced NWR

**City and State:** Merced, CA

**Partners Involved:** California Department of Fish and Wildlife

**Event Name:** Sacramento and Delevan NWRs annual Brush-Up Day

**Description:** A volunteer workday in which hunters come out to the Sacramento and Delevan Refuges to clean blinds, stake pathways, clean signs, build blinds, and prep the hunting areas. A BBQ is provided at the Sacramento NWR maintenance shop after the work portion is over. At the BBQ Refuge staff will discuss habitat conditions, flood-up, and hunt program changes for the upcoming waterfowl season. We usually see around 40 volunteers at this event.

**Date:** Saturday, September 9, 2017

**Location:** Sacramento and Delevan NWRs

**City and State:** Willows, CA

**Partners Involved:** Refuge staff and volunteers put on this event

**Event Name:** Sacramento NWR Jr. Waterfowl Hunt

**Description:** All of the assigned hunt sites (blinds and assigned ponds) are reserved for Jr. Hunters only for the entire day. Forty three Jr. Hunters are drawn through a reservation process and then spots are refilled through a lottery and first come first serve process. During the 2016-17 hunting season 71 Jr. Hunters participated in this event. This event includes a BBQ and interactive educational activities relating to hunting ethics, bird ID, and other hunting related topics.

**Date:** Saturday, December 2, 2017

**Location:** Sacramento NWR

**City and State:** Willows, CA

**Partners Involved:** California Waterfowl and CA Department of Fish and Wildlife

**Event Name:** Delevan NWR Jr. Waterfowl Hunt

**Description:** All of the assigned hunt sites (blinds and assigned ponds) are reserved for Jr. Hunters only for the entire day. Twenty six Jr. Hunters are drawn through a reservation process and then spots are refilled through a lottery and first come first serve process. During the 2016-17 hunting season 62 Jr. Hunters participated in this event. This event includes homemade chili by a volunteer and interactive educational activities relating to

hunting ethics, bird ID, and other hunting related topics.

**Date:** Saturday, December 9, 2017

**Location:** Delevan NWR

**City and State:** Maxwell, CA

**Partners Involved:** California Waterfowl and CA Department of Fish and Wildlife

**Event Name:** Colusa NWR Disabled Veterans Hunt

**Description:** All of the assigned ponds are reserved for disabled veteran hunters for the entire day. We will draw reservations for 11 hunting parties with a total of 2 hunters per party. There will be a BBQ the day of the hunt and a meet and greet the night before.

**Date:** Saturday, January 6, 2018

**Location:** Colusa NWR

**City and State:** Colusa, CA

**Partners Involved:** California Waterfowl

**Event Name:** Post Season Youth Waterfowl Hunts

**Description:** The hunting areas are open for youth waterfowl hunts the first weekend in February. Refuge staff provide educational activities and games at these events.

**Date:** February 3-4, 2018

**Location:** Sacramento, Delevan, and Colusa NWRs

**City and State:** Willows, Colusa, and Maxwell, CA

**Partners Involved:** CA Department of Fish and Wildlife

**Event Name:** Kern Hunter Clean-up to celebrate National Public Lands Day.

**Date:** September 29, 8am-1pm

**Location:** Kern NWR

**City, State:** Delano, CA

**Event Name:** 2017/2018 Waterfowl Season Opener October 21-January 28, 2018

**Date:** October 21- January 28, 2018

**Location:** Kern NWR

**City State:** Delano, CA

**Event Name:** Modoc Youth Waterfowl Hunt Weekend

**Description:** Up to 66 youth hunters ( and their non-hunting chaperones) will have the opportunity to hunt waterfowl on the Modoc National Wildlife Refuge during the youth waterfowl hunting weekend. During the Saturday hunt the local chapter of Ducks Unlimited will host a hot dog lunch and giveaway for the youth hunters.

**Date:** Sept 23, 24

**Location:** Modoc National Wildlife Refuge

**City and State:** Alturas, CA

**Partners Involved:** Ducks Unlimited

**Event Name:** Modoc Waterfowl Hunt Opening Weekend

**Description:** Up to 128 hunters will have the opportunity to hunt waterfowl on the Modoc National Wildlife Refuge during the opening weekend of the Northeastern waterfowl zone..

**Date:** October 7th and 8th

**Location:** Modoc National Wildlife Refuge

**City and State:** Alturas, CA

**Partners Involved:** Everyone!

## **COLORADO**

**Event Name:** Rocky Mountain Arsenal NWR Adaptive Fishing Program

**Description:** Arsenal Anglers is a free, volunteer-run therapeutic fishing program that provides adaptive equipment and hands-on assistance for people of all backgrounds and abilities, many of them local veterans, patients and staff from local hospitals, nursing homes, retirement facilities, and survivors of physical and emotional abuse.

**Date:** August 24th (4:00 - 7:30 p.m.)

**Location:** Lake Mary at Rocky Mountain Arsenal NWR

**City and State:** Commerce City, CO

**Partners Involved:** Colorado Veterans & Refuge Volunteers

**\*\* Note that a Congressional and media event is planned in association with this event. Acting Director Sheehan and Secretary Zinke have been invited to attend**

**Event Name:** Rocky Mountain Arsenal NWR Kids Fishing Clinic

**Description:** *Grab your fishing pole and head to the refuge for some free fishing fun! The Urban Rangers from ELK will be on hand to help and poles will be available for loan. Youth under 16 years old must be accompanied by an adult.*

**Date:** August 27th (10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.)

**Location:** Lake Mary at Rocky Mountain Arsenal NWR

**City and State:** Commerce City, CO

**Partners Involved:** Environmental Learning for Kids

**Event Name:** Rocky Mountain Arsenal NWR Adaptive Fishing Program

**Description:** Arsenal Anglers is a free, volunteer-run therapeutic fishing program that provides adaptive equipment and hands-on assistance for people of all backgrounds and abilities, many of them local veterans, patients and staff from local hospitals, nursing homes, retirement facilities, and survivors of physical and emotional abuse.

**Date:** August 31th (4:00 - 7:30 p.m.)

**Location:** Lake Mary at Rocky Mountain Arsenal NWR

**City and State:** Commerce City, CO

**Partners Involved:** Sky Cliff Center & Refuge Volunteers

**Event Name:** Rocky Mountain Arsenal NWR Adaptive Fishing Program

**Description:** Arsenal Anglers is a free, volunteer-run therapeutic fishing program that provides adaptive equipment and hands-on assistance for people of all backgrounds and abilities, many of them local veterans, patients and staff from local hospitals, nursing homes, retirement facilities, and survivors of physical and emotional abuse.

**Date:** September 14th (4:00 - 7:30 p.m.)

**Location:** Lake Mary at Rocky Mountain Arsenal NWR

**City and State:** Commerce City, CO

**Partners Involved:** Sky Cliff Center & Refuge Volunteers

**Event Name:** Rocky Mountain Arsenal NWR Kids Fishing Clinic

**Description:** *Grab your fishing pole and head to the refuge for some free fishing fun! The Urban Rangers from ELK will be on hand to help and poles will be available for loan. Youth under 16 years old must be accompanied by an adult.*

**Date:** September 16th (10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.)

**Location:** Lake Mary at Rocky Mountain Arsenal NWR

**City and State:** Commerce City, CO

**Partners Involved:** Environmental Learning for Kids

**\*\* Note that Biennial for the Americas and Colorado Parks & Wildlife will also be at the Refuge this morning for other (and associated) activities.**

**Event Name:** Rocky Mountain Arsenal NWR Adaptive Fishing Program

**Description:** Arsenal Anglers is a free, volunteer-run therapeutic fishing program that provides adaptive equipment and hands-on assistance for people of all backgrounds and abilities, many of them local veterans, patients and staff from local hospitals, nursing homes, retirement facilities, and survivors of physical and emotional abuse.

**Date:** September 21st (4:00 - 7:30 p.m.)

**Location:** Lake Mary at Rocky Mountain Arsenal NWR

**City and State:** Commerce City, CO

**Partners Involved:** Vista View Hospital & Refuge Volunteers

**Event Name:** Rocky Mountain Arsenal NWR Adaptive Fishing Program

**Description:** Arsenal Anglers is a free, volunteer-run therapeutic fishing program that provides adaptive equipment and hands-on assistance for people of all backgrounds and abilities, many of them local veterans, patients and staff from local hospitals, nursing homes, retirement facilities, and survivors of physical and emotional abuse.

**Date:** September 21st (4:00 - 7:30 p.m.)

**Location:** Lake Mary at Rocky Mountain Arsenal NWR

**City and State:** Commerce City, CO

**Partners Involved:** Craig Hospital & Refuge Volunteers

**<https://craighospital.org/events/adventureprogram-arsenal-fishing-september-15>**

**Event Name:** Rocky Mountain Arsenal NWR Adaptive Fishing Program

**Description:** Arsenal Anglers is a free, volunteer-run therapeutic fishing program that provides adaptive equipment and hands-on assistance for people of all backgrounds and abilities, many of them local veterans, patients and staff from local hospitals, nursing homes, retirement facilities, and survivors of physical and emotional abuse.

**Date:** October 5th (4:00 - 7:30 p.m.)

**Location:** Lake Mary at Rocky Mountain Arsenal NWR

**City and State:** Commerce City, CO

**Partners Involved:** Colorado Veterans & Refuge Volunteers

**Event Name:** Rocky Mountain Arsenal NWR Kids Fishing Clinic

**Description:** *Grab your fishing pole and head to the refuge for some free fishing fun! The Urban Rangers from ELK will be on hand to help and poles will be available for loan. Youth under 16 years old must be accompanied by an adult.*

**Date:** October 7th (10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.)  
**Location:** Lake Mary at Rocky Mountain Arsenal NWR  
**City and State:** Commerce City, CO  
**Partners Involved:** Environmental Learning for Kids

## **FLORIDA**

**Event Name:** Lower Suwannee Deer Archery Hunt

**Description:**

**Date:** September 23 – October 15

**Location:** Lower Suwannee NWR

**City and State:** Old Town, FL

**Partners Involved**

**Event Name:** Lower Suwannee Feral Hog Muzzleloader Hunt

**Description:**

**Date:** October 21 - 29

**Location:** Lower Suwannee NWR

**City and State:** Old Town, FL

**Partners Involved**

**Event Name:** Loxahatchee Alligator Hunt

**Description:**

**Date:** August 15 to November 1, 2017

**Location:** Arthur R. Marshall Loxahatchee NWR

**City and State:** Boynton Beach, FL

**Partners Involved**

**Event Name:** Loxahatchee Early Teal Season

**Description:**

**Date:** September 16 -24, 2017

**Location:** Arthur R. Marshall Loxahatchee NWR

**City and State:** Boynton Beach, FL

**Partners Involved**

**Event Name:** Loxahatchee Kids Fishing Derby

**Description:**

**Date:** September 23, 2017

**Location:** Arthur R. Marshall Loxahatchee NWR

**City and State:** Boynton Beach, FL

**Partners Involved**

**Event Name:** Loxahatchee Fishing Tournament

**Description:** Fishing tournament hosted by fishing clubs

**Date:** August, September and October 2017

**Location:** Arthur R. Marshall Loxahatchee NWR  
**City and State:** Boynton Beach, FL  
**Partners Involved:** Multiple fishing clubs

**Event Name:** Loxahatchee Guided Fishing  
**Description:** Guided Fishing by Commercial Fishing Guides  
**Date:** August, September and October 2017  
**Location:** Arthur R. Marshall Loxahatchee NWR  
**City and State:** Boynton Beach, FL  
**Partners Involved**

**Event Name:** Merritt Island NWR Big Game Archery Hunts  
**Description:**  
**Date:** October 6-8, 2017  
**Location:** Merritt Island NWR  
**City and State:** Titusville, FL  
**Partners Involved**

**Event Name:** Merritt Island NWR Archery  
**Description:**  
**Date:** October 6-8, 2017  
**Location:** Merritt Island NWR  
**City and State:** Titusville, FL  
**Partners Involved**

**Event Name:** Merritt Island NWR Waterfowl Early Teal  
**Description:**  
**Date:** September 16 – 24, 2017  
**Location:** Merritt Island NWR  
**City and State:** Titusville, FL  
**Partners Involved**

**Event Name:** Lake Woodruff Archery I  
**Description:**  
**Date:** September 16-24, 2017  
**Location:** Lake Woodruff NWR  
**City and State:** De Leon Springs, FL  
**Partners Involved**

**Event Name:** Lake Woodruff Archery II  
**Description:**  
**Date:** October 7 – 15, 2017  
**Location:** Lake Woodruff NWR  
**City and State:** De Leon Springs, FL  
**Partners Involved**

**Event Name:** Lake Woodruff Primitive Gun I

**Description:**

**Date:** October 21 – 23, 2017

**Location:** Lake Woodruff NWR

**City and State:** De Leon Springs, FL

**Partners Involved**

**Event Name:** Lake Woodruff Primitive Gun II

**Description:**

**Date:** October 28 - 30, 2017

**Location:** Lake Woodruff NWR

**City and State:** De Leon Springs, FL

**Partners Involved**

## **GEORGIA**

**Event Name:** Piedmont Disabled-Access Hunt

**Description:** At Piedmont NWR in central Georgia, refuge managers are hosting a disabled-access hunt for wheel chair-bound hunters on October 13-14. Expecting between five and 15 hunters.

**Date:** October 13 - 14

**Location:** Piedmont NWR

**City and State:** Round Oak, GA

**Partners Involved**

**Event Name:** Piedmont Primitive Weapons Hunt

**Description:** A primitive weapons hunt will be held at the refuge October 26 - 28 at Piedmont. Expecting roughly 900 hunters

**Date:** October 26 - 28

**Location:** Piedmont NWR

**City and State:** Round Oak, GA

**Partners Involved**

**Event Name:** Okefenokee Disabled-Access Hunt and Youth Hunt

**Description:** Okefenokee NWR will host a disabled access hunt for wheel chair-bound hunters and a youth hunt on its Suwannee Canal Unit.

**Date:** October 27 - 28.

**Location:** Okefenokee NWR

**City and State:** Folkston, GA

**Partners Involved**

## **IDAHO**

**Event Name:** Idaho Salmon and Steelhead Days

**Description:** An annual outreach event celebrating and increasing awareness/appreciation for the region's salmon and steelhead resources. Educational opportunity for area 5th-graders reaching 34 classrooms, 79 classes, and 2,351 students, teachers, parents, and serviced by 340 volunteers (from the 2016 event).

**Date:** September 6-8, 2017

**Location:** MK Nature Center/Idaho Department of Fish and Game HQ

**City and State:** Boise, ID

**Partners Involved:** Idaho Department of Fish and Game (plus numerous other private and Federal contributors)

## **ILLINOIS**

**Event Name:** Crab Orchard SI National Hunting and Fishing Days

**Description:** Join us in celebrating 30 years of Southern Illinois Hunting and Fishing Days. This event is the largest celebration of National Hunting and Fishing Days in the Country. The event has hosted more than 800,000 sportsman and their families. The event was created to celebrate our heritage of hunting and fishing in Illinois. It is an educational, family event, dedicated to teaching ethics, safety, and conservation in order to enhance the outdoor experience.

**Date:** June 3 - September 24, 2017

**Location:** Crab Orchard NWR

**City and State:** Marion, IL

**Partners Involved**

**Event Name:** Crab Orchard Youth Firearm Deer Hunt

**Description:** The refuge provides hunting opportunities for 25 youth.

**Date:** May 18 - November 19, 2017

**Location:** Crab Orchard NWR

**City and State:** Marion, IL

**Partners Involved**

**Event Name:** Crab Orchard Disabled Access Firearm Deer Hunt

**Description:** The refuge provides hunting opportunities for 25 hunters with disabilities.

**Date:** June 3 - November 19, 2017

**Location:** Crab Orchard NWR

**City and State:** Marion, IL

**Partners Involved**

**Event Name:** Crab Orchard Youth Waterfowl Workshop and Hunt

**Description:** Sign up early for a day of fun and learning at the Youth Waterfowl Workshop. Learn all you need to know about waterfowl hunting, safety and stay for the pizza and prizes! The following day will be the hunt; hunters age 15 or younger can hunt ducks, geese, coots, and mergansers as long as they are accompanied by an adult at least 18 years of age. The accompanying adult cannot hunt during the weekend

**Date:** May 4 - December 16, 2017

**Location:** Crab Orchard NWR

**City and State:** Marion, IL

**Partners Involved:**

**Event Name:** Two Rivers Cub Scout Angler Education Day

**Description:** partner event with Boy Scouts of America Greater St. Louis Area Council, located in St. Louis, MO

**Date:** TBD

**Location:** Two Rivers NWR

**City and State:** Brussels, IL

**Partners Involved:** Two Rivers Cub Scouts

**Event Name:** Two Rivers Family Fishing Fair during National Fishing and Boating Week

**Description:** partner event with Illinois Department of Natural Resources, located at Pere Marquette State Park in Grafton, IL

**Date:** TBD

**Location:** Two Rivers NWR

**City and State:** Brussels, IL

**Partners Involved:** IL Department of Natural Resources

**Event Name:** Upper Mississippi River Savanna Kids Fishing Day

**Description:**

**Date:** TBD

**Location:** Upper Mississippi River NWR – Savanna District

**City and State:** Thomson, IL

**Partners Involved**

## INDIANA

**Event Name:** Muscatatuck Family Fishing Workshop

**Description:** Bring the family and join us from 9 am-noon to learn the fun of fishing! All equipment provided, and no fishing license needed this Saturday

**Date:** October 29, 2017

**Location:** Muscatatuck NWR

**City and State:** Seymour, IN

**Partners Involved**

**Event Name:** Muscatatuck Take a Kid Fishing Day

**Description:** 9 am – 2 pm around the Visitor Center. Lots of fun fishing activities for youngsters that includes fishing lessons on request, loaner equipment, and free lunch

**Date:** October 21, 2017

**Location:** Muscatatuck NWR

**City and State:** Seymour, IN

**Partners Involved**

## IOWA

**Event Name:** DeSoto Muzzleloader Deer Hunt

**Description:** Muzzleloader deer hunt

**Date:** June 10 - October 23, 2017

**Location:** DeSoto NWR

**City and State:** Missouri Valley, IA

**Partners Involved**

**Event Name:** DeSoto Muzzleloader Deer Hunt

**Description:** Refuge Closed

**Date:** June 24 - December 17, 2017

**Location:** DeSoto NWR

**City and State:** Missouri Valley, IA

**Partners Involved**

## KANSAS

**Event Name:** OK KIDS (Outdoor Kids)

**Description:** O.K. Kids stands for Outdoor Kansas for Kids. The Kansas Wildscape Foundation and a group of national and local sponsors have made this an annual event throughout the State of Kansas where local communities and park and recreation agencies are encouraged to provide fun and entertaining outdoor events to help give kids a better appreciation of the outdoors. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will manage the fishing event on Saturday morning, September 9, 2017. The entire event will average between 700 to 800 children. For additional information please see <http://www.okkidscc.com/> or call the refuge at (620) 392-5553.

**Date:** September 9, 2017

**Location:** New Strawn City Lake

**City and State :** New Strawn, KS

**Partners Involved:** Burlington Police Department \* Burlington Tax Center \* Coffey County EMS \* Coffey County Fire District #1 \* Coffey Health System \* Coffey County Library - New Strawn \* Coffey County MOPS \* Coffey County Sheriff's Office/Reserves \* Coffey County Transportation Inc. \* Coffey County Water Rescue \* First Assembly of God \* U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Flint Hills National Wildlife Refuge \* Kansas Wildlife, Parks, & Tourism \* Neosho Valley Quail Forever \* USD #244 Recreation Commission \* U.S. Army Corps of Engineers - John Redmond Reservoir \* Wild Voice Entertainment \* Wolf Creek Nuclear Power Plant Green Team

**Event Name:** Flint Hills National Wildlife Refuge Youth Waterfowl Hunt

**Description:** The Flint Hills National Wildlife Refuge and Ducks Unlimited sponsor a Youth Waterfowl Hunt for kids between the ages of 10yrs to 15yrs old. The hunt is geared to introduce kids to hunting, Ducks Unlimited provides guides for the children. The refuge helps out with waders and a ride out to the blind. The event is capped off with biscuits and gravy and a short recap/questions and answer session after the hunt for everyone including family or other visitors to the refuge. It has been a huge success and a wonderful partnership.

**Date:** November 4, 2017 from 5:00 am to 12:00pm

**Location:** Flint Hills National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Contact Station

**City and State:** Hartford, KS

**Partners Involved:** Ducks Unlimited, KVOE Radio

## **KENTUCKY**

**Event Name:** Wolf Creek NFH 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Wounded Warriors Fishing Rodeo

**Description:**

**Date:** September 26, 2017

**Location:** Wolf Creek NFH

**City and State:** Jamestown, KY

**Partners Involved:** Wounded Warrior Project

**Event Name:** Wolf Creek NFH Monthly Fly Fishing Workshops

**Description:** Highly attended fly fishing workshop

**Date:** Monthly basis workshop, throughout the year

**Location:** Wolf Creek NFH

**City and State:** Jamestown, KY

**Partners Involved**

**Event Name:** Wolf Creek NFH Senior Fishing Rodeo

**Description:**

**Date:** September 26, 2017

**Location:** Wolf Creek NFH

**City and State:** Jamestown, KY

**Partners Involved**

**Event Name:** Clarks River Solar Eclipse Youth Fishing Day

**Description:** youth fishing will be a part of the refuge's solar eclipse event held on August 21, 2017. Participation is expected to be high.

**Date:** September 26, 2017

**Location:** Clarks River NWR

**City and State:** Benton, KY

**Partners Involved**

**Event Name:** Field to Fork at Clarks River NWR

**Description:** "Field to Fork" is a hunter recruitment/retention program administered by the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources. First-time hunters will be taken on an archery deer hunt by experienced hunters who will serve as mentors. Refuge lands will serve as a possible hunt location and members of the refuge staff may be asked to serve as mentors. Final details are yet to be determined by KDFWR. Approximately 30 participants are expected, not all of which will use refuge lands as a hunt site.

**Date:** October 6, 2017

**Location:** Clarks River NWR

**City and State:** Benton, KY

**Partners Involved:** KDFWR

**Event Name:** Clarks River Family Outdoors Night

**Description:** This is an annual event as a part of "Family Week," which is hosted by the local county. Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources (KDFWR) will bring additional fish to the fishing lake a few day previous to the event. Participation varies but is usually between 75 and 100 people.

**Date:** September 5, 2017

**Location:** Clarks River NWR

**City and State:** Benton, KY

**Partners Involved:** KDFWR

## LOUISIANA

**Event Name:** 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Wild Things Event

**Description:**

**Date:** October 14, 2017

**Location:** Southeast LA NWR Complex

**City and State:** Lacombe, LA

**Partners Involved**

**Event Name:** 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Wild Things Event

**Description:**

**Date:** October 14, 2017

**Location:** Southeast LA NWR Complex

**City and State:** Lacombe, LA

**Partners Involved**

\*Not directly hunting and fishing related but these two recreational uses are topics of discussion during the event\*

## MASSACHUSETTS

**Event Name:** Berkshire NFH Kids Fishing Derby

**Description:** Prizes awarded and some gear available. In addition, the lower pond is open to fishing for kids 13 and under, all year round from 7:30 a.m.to 4:00 p.m.

**Date:** August 19, 2017

**Location:** Berkshire NFH

**City and State:** New Marlborough, MA

**Partners Involved:**

**Event Name:** Assabet River Adult Fishing Clinic

**Description:**

**Date:** August 23, 2017

**Location:** Assabet River NWR

**City and State:** Sudbury, MA

**Event Name:** Maurice Education Center Camping and Fishing Trip

**Description:** The Manice Education Center has been operating since 1981 and has provided 25,000 students with “outdoor, leadership, and environmental experiences”. For most students, MEC offers a first opportunity to be immersed in the wilderness. Along with camping, the two different groups will tour the facility, learn to fish, and help with spawning activities at the hatchery.

**Date:** August 21 -23, 2017

**Location:** Berkshire National Fish Hatchery

**City and State:** New Marlborough, MA

**Partners Involved:** Maurice Education Center

**Event Name:** Assabet River Youth Fishing Clinic

**Description:**

**Date:** September 7, 2017

**Location:** Assabet River NWR

**City and State:** Sudbury, MA

**Partners Involved**

**Event Name:** Berkshire Kids Fishing Derby

**Description:** Prizes awarded and some gear available. In addition, the lower pond is open to fishing for kids 13 and under, all year round from 7:30 a.m.to 4:00 p.m.

**Date:** September 9, 2017

**Location:** Berkshire NFH

**City and State:** New Marlborough, MA

**Partners Involved:**

**Event Name:** Parker River Youth Waterfowl Training

**Description:**

**Date:** Mid-October 2017

**Location:** Parker River NWR

**City and State:** Newburyport, MA

**Partners Involved**

**Event Name:** Silvio Conte National Fish and Wildlife Refuge Family Fishing Event

**Description:** This community event will be held in Amherst, MA

**Date:** September 9, 2017

**Location:** Amherst, MA

**City and State:** Amherst, MA

**Partners Involved**

## **MICHIGAN**

**Event Name:** Detroit River Pointe Mouillee Waterfowl Festival

**Description:** Event is taking place at Point Mouillee game area

**Date:** July 15 - September 17, 2017

**Location:** Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge

**City and State:** Grosse Ile, MI

## **Partners Involved**

**Event Name:** Agassiz Youth Deer Hunt

**Description:** Youth Deer Hunt

**Date:** January 14 - October 22, 2017

**Location:** Agassiz NWR

**City and State:** Middle River, MI

**Partners Involved**

**Event Name:** Seney Children's Fishing Day

**Description:** Join us for Children's Fishing Day - Catch the Excitement! Saturday, June 24th, 2017, the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, in cooperation with the Seney Natural History Association, invite you to participate in the 28th Annual Children's Fishing Day.

**Date:** December 7, 2017

**Location:** Seney NWR

**City and State:** Seney, MI

**Partners Involved:** Seney Natural History Association

**Event Name:** Seney Youth in the Outdoors

**Description:** Youth in the Outdoors will be held Saturday, October 7th, 2017 so save the date! There will be several different activities to choose from which include mini sessions, long sessions, and half day sessions. If you have kids, grandkids, friends with kids, or are a kid, and you want to participate send an email to [seney@fws.gov](mailto:seney@fws.gov) to be added to our mailing list and registration materials will be sent to you in August

**Date:** December 9, 2017

**Location:** Seney NWR

**City and State:** Seney, MI

**Partners Involved:**

## **MINNESOTA**

**Event Name:** Rydell NWR Accesible Deer Hunt

**Description:** Options Resource Center for Independent Living

**Date:** October 14 – November 3, 2017

**Location:** Rydell NWR

**City and State:** Erskine, MN

**Partners Involved:** Resource Center for Independent Living

**Event Name:** Minnesota Valley Fish Day

**Description:** Env. Ed. Program "graduation event" for 5th graders to learn to fish & keep rod, reel & tackle

**Date:** May 19 - October 7, 2017

**Location:** Minnesota Valley NWR

**City and State:** Bloomington, MN

**Partners Involved:**

**Event Name:** Minnesota Valley Family Fishing Powderhorn Park

**Description:** Off-Refuge event. Provide free use of equipment to instruct & encourage fishing with youth from targeted outreach and drop-in family audiences

**Date:** July 15 - October 7, 2017

**Location:** Minnesota Valley NWR

**City and State:** Bloomington, MN

**Partners Involved**

**Event Name:** Minnesota Valley Bass Ponds Family Fishing

**Description:** Provide free use of equipment to instruct & encourage fishing with youth from targeted outreach and drop-in family audiences

**Date:** August 11 - October 12, 2017

**Location:** Minnesota Valley NWR

**City and State:** Bloomington, MN

**Partners Involved**

**Event Name:** Minnesota Valley Young Waterfowlers Program

**Description:** Firearms Safety Education and Field School

**Date:** September 4 – 23, 2017

**Location:** Minnesota Valley NWR

**City and State:** Bloomington, MN

**Partners Involved**

**Event Name:** Minnesota Valley Mentored Youth Waterfowl Hunt

**Description:** Mentored Youth Waterfowl Hunt

**Date:** September 9 - 23, 2017

**Location:** Minnesota Valley NWR

**City and State:** Bloomington, MN

**Partners Involved**

**Event Name:** Crane Meadows NWR Disabled Deer Hunt

**Description:** The refuge hosts disabled deer hunt for 10 hunters with disabilities

**Date:** October 11 – 12, 2017

**Location:** Crane Meadows NWR

**City and State:** Royalton, MN

**Partners Involved:**

**Event Name:** Rice Lake Disabled Access Deer Hunt

**Description:**

**Date:** October 11 – 12, 2017

**Location:** Rice Lake National Wildlife Refuge

**City and State:** McGregor, MN

**Partners Involved:**

**Event Name:** Rydell Mentored Youth Deer Hunt

**Description:** Rydell NWR Mentored Youth Deer Hunt

**Date:** October 29 – November 11, 2017

**Location:** Rydell NWR  
**City and State:** Erskine, MN  
**Partners Involved**

**Event Name:** Rice Lake Firearms Deer Hunt

**Description:** A lottery conducted by the Minnesota DNR will limit the number of firearms hunters to 40. Applicants need to enter the lottery by the 9/07/2017 deadline

**Date:** November 3 – 19, 2017

**Location:** Rice Lake NWR

**City and State:** McGregor, MN

**Partners Involved:** MNDNR

**Event Name:** Minnesota Valley Capable Partners Deer Hunt

**Description:** Management hunt specifically for adaptive hunting partner group – Capable Partners

**Date:** October 5 – December 31, 2017

**Location:** Minnesota Valley NWR

**City and State:** Bloomington MN

**Partners Involved:** Capable Partners

**Event Name:** Rydell Kids Fishing Day

**Description:** Free event for youth age 15 and younger. Bait and fishing tackle available. The event includes a free lunch and casting demonstration and contest. 9:00am - 1:00pm

**Date:** November 17, 2017

**Location:** Rydell NWR

**City and State:** Erskine, MN

**Partners Involved**

**Event Name:** Sherburne Archery Deer Hunt

**Description:** Areas open to hunting are open to anyone possessing a valid 2017 MN state archery license

**Date:** September 16, 2017

**Location:** Sherburne NWR

**City and State:** Zimmerman, MN

**Partners Involved**

**Event Name:** Sherburne Firearms Deer Hunt

**Description:** Minnesota DNR conducts a lottery for no. of either sex deer permits available.

**Date:** November 4, 2017

**Location:** Sherburne NWR

**City and State:** Zimmerman, MN

**Partners Involved**

**Event Name:** Shiawassee 35th Annual Great Saginaw River Kids Free Fishing Day

**Description:** Taking place on Saginaw's Ojibway Island during the Michigan DNR's Free Fishing Weekend, Shiawassee National Wildlife Refuge will be offering free fishing activities and opportunities with free bait and participation prizes while supplies last. Children ages 3-15 can compete for additional prizes. This is a catch and release event

**Date:** December 9, 2017

**Location:** Shiawassee NWR

**City and State:** Saginaw, MN

**Partners Involved**

**Event Name:** Tamarac Fishing Workshop

**Description:** Spruce up your fishing skills and join a fishing expert for an afternoon of bait, line set-up and casting techniques. Meet at Discovery Center.

**Date:** September 16, 2017

**Location:** Tamarac NWR

**City and State:** Rochert, MN

**Partners Involved**

**Event Name:** Rice Lake Archery Deer Hunting

**Description:** Areas open to hunting are open to anyone possessing a valid 2017 MN state archery license

**Date:** October 22 – December 31, 2017

**Location:** Rice Lake NWR

**City and State:** McGregor MN

**Partners Involved**

## **MISSOURI**

**Event Name:** Seney NWR Sharp-tailed Grouse Viewing

**Description:** Reserve your place for a chance to see the sharp-tailed grouse from our viewing blind. It will require early rising, a walk in, and possibly cold toes but the sight and sound of sharp-tailed grouse dancing on a lek (dancing/breeding ground) is one of nature's true spectacles. Males stomp their feet as fast as they can, causing their tails to rattle. At the same time they inflate purple neck sacks, called gular, which produce a unique sound. Meanwhile the females sit back and watch carefully to select their mate. The romance is fleeting and the hen will be left to raise the young on her own. Couple this show with the early morning light of dawn and you have the backdrop for a wonderful and unforgettable morning. Contact us to make reservations.

**Date:** April 14 – November 18, 2017

**Location:** Great River NWR

**City and State:** Annada, MO

**Partners Involved:**

**Event Name:** Middle Mississippi River Rough Fish Round UP

**Description:** Third annual Bow Fishing tournament on the Kaskaskia River. Event is promoted to help reduce invasive species.

**Date:** July 15 - September 9, 2017

**Location:** Middle Mississippi River NWR

**City and State:** Annada, MO

**Partners Involved:**

**Event Name:** Clarence Cannon Mobility and Visually Impaired Deer Hunt

**Description:** Mobility and visually impaired deer hunt

**Date:** April 22 - October 22, 2017  
**Location:** Clarence Cannon NWR  
**City and State:** Annada, MO  
**Partners Involved**

**Event Name:** Swan Lake Managed Deer Hunt  
**Description:** Drawing by MDC  
**Date:** November 5 – 18, 2017  
**Location:** Swan Lake NWR  
**City and State:** Sumner, MO  
**Partners Involved**

**Event Name:** Swan Lake Hunter Education Field Day  
**Description:**  
**Date:** December 15, 2017  
**Location:** Swan Lake NWR  
**City and State:** Sumner, MO  
**Partners Involved**

**Event Name:** Swan Lake Waterfowl Hunt Scouting Day  
**Description:**  
**Date:** December 16, 2017  
**Location:** Swan Lake NWR  
**City and State:** Sumner, MO  
**Partners Involved**

## **NEBRASKA**

**Event Name:** Boyer Chute Muzzleloader Deer Hunt  
**Description:** Refuge Closed  
**Date:** April 15 - December 17, 2017  
**Location:** Boyer Chute NWR  
**City and State:** Omaha, NE  
**Partners Involved**

## **NEVADA**

**Event Name:** Waterfowl Hunt Clinic  
**Description:** ½ day clinic focusing for both youth and adults, to familiarize hunters to ethics, tactics, habitat, identification, regulations, and shotgun/non-toxic shot education.  
**Date:** September 16, 2017  
**Location:** Clark County Shooting Complex  
**City and State:** Las Vegas, NV  
**Partners Involved:** Nevada Department of Wildlife

**Event Name:** Dove Season

**Description:** See Pahrnagat NWR Hunting Brochure special hunting regulations and open locations.

**Date:** September 1, 2017 - October 30, 2017

**Location:** Pahrnagat National Wildlife Refuge

**City and State:** Alamo, NV

**Partners Involved:** None

**Event Name:** Youth Quail Hunt

**Description:** Areas open to hunting are open to youth 17 years of age or younger who are accompanied by an adult at least 18 years old. See Pahrnagat NWR Hunting Brochure special hunting regulations and open locations.

**Date:** September 23 - October 1, 2017

**Location:** Pahrnagat National Wildlife Refuge

**City and State:** Alamo, NV

**Event Name:** Youth Rabbit Hunt

**Description:** Areas open to hunting are open to youth 17 years of age or younger who are accompanied by an adult at least 18 years old. See Pahrnagat NWR Hunting Brochure special hunting regulations and open locations.

**Date:** September 23 - October 1, 2017

**Location:** Pahrnagat National Wildlife Refuge

**City and State:** Alamo, NV

**Partners Involved:** None

**Event Name:** Youth Waterfowl Hunt

**Description:** Areas open to hunting are open to youth 17 years of age or younger who are accompanied by an adult at least 18 years old. See Pahrnagat NWR Hunting Brochure special hunting regulations and open locations.

**Date:** February 10, 2018

**Location:** Pahrnagat National Wildlife Refuge

**City and State:** Alamo, NV

**Partners Involved:** None

**Event Name:** Ducks, Coots, Moorhens, Snipe Season

**Description:** See Pahrnagat NWR Hunting Brochure special hunting regulations and open locations.

**Date:** October 14 - 22, 2017, and October 25, 2017 - January 28, 2018

**Location:** Pahrnagat National Wildlife Refuge

**City and State:** Alamo, NV

**Partners Involved:** None

**Event Name:** Geese (Canada, Brant, White-fronted) Season

**Description:** See Pahrnagat NWR Hunting Brochure special hunting regulations and open locations.

**Date:** October 14 - 22, 2017 and October 25, 2017 - January 28, 2018.

**Location:** Pahrnagat National Wildlife Refuge

**City and State:** Alamo, NV

**Partners Involved:** None

**Event Name:** Geese (Snow and Ross's) Season

**Description:** Areas open to hunting are listed in the Ash Meadows NWR Hunting Regulations.

**Date:** October 14-22, 2017 – October 25, 2017 - January 28, 2018

**Location:** Pahrnat National Wildlife Refuge

**City and State:** Alamo, NV

**Partners Involved:** None

**Event Name:** Gamble's Quail Season

**Description:** See Pahrnat NWR Hunting Brochure special hunting regulations and open locations.

**Date:** October 14, 2017 - February 4, 2018

**Location:** Pahrnat National Wildlife Refuge

**City and State:** Alamo, NV

**Partners Involved:** None

**Event Name:** Cottontail and Jackrabbit Season

**Description:** See Pahrnat NWR Hunting Brochure special hunting regulations and open locations.

**Date:** October 14, 2017 - February 28, 2018

**Location:** Pahrnat National Wildlife Refuge

**City and State:** Alamo, NV

**Partners Involved:** None

**Event Name:** Pahrnat Duck Days

**Description:** Pahrnat Valley School kids participate in duck banding to gain an understanding of population management and migration of the Pacific Flyway.

**Date:** Undetermined September, 2017

**Location:** Pahrnat National Wildlife Refuge

**City and State:** Alamo, NV

**Partners Involved:** Pahrnat Valley School District

**Event Name:** Youth Quail Hunt

**Description:** Areas open to hunting are open to youth 17 years of age or younger who are accompanied by an adult at least 18 years old.

**Date:** September 23 - October 1, 2017

**Location:** Ash Meadows NWR

**City and State:** Amargosa Valley, NV

**Partners Involved:**

**Event Name:** Youth Rabbit Hunt

**Description:** Areas open to hunting are open to youth 17 years of age or younger who are accompanied by an adult at least 18 years old.

**Date:** September 23 - October 1, 2017

**Location:** Ash Meadows NWR

**City and State:** Amargosa Valley, NV

**Partners Involved:**

**Event Name:** Youth Waterfowl Hunt

**Description:** Areas open to hunting are open to youth 17 years of age or younger who are accompanied by an adult at least 18 years old.

**Date:** September 23, 2017 and February 3, 2018

**Location:** Ash Meadows NWR

**City and State:** Amargosa Valley, NV

**Partners Involved:**

**Event Name:** Ducks, Coots, Moorhens, Snipe Season

**Description:** Areas open to hunting are listed in the Ash Meadows NWR Hunting Regulations.

**Date:** October 7 - 22, 2017, and October 25, 2017 - January 21, 2018

**Location:** Ash Meadows NWR

**City and State:** Amargosa Valley, NV

**Partners Involved:**

**Event Name:** Geese (Canada, Brant, White-fronted) Season

**Description:** Areas open to hunting are listed in the Ash Meadows NWR Hunting Regulations.

**Date:** October 7 - 22, 2017 and October 25, 2017 - January 21, 2018.

**Location:** Ash Meadows NWR

**City and State:** Amargosa Valley, NV

**Partners Involved:**

**Event Name:** Geese (Snow and Ross's) Season

**Description:** Areas open to hunting are listed in the Ash Meadows NWR Hunting Regulations.

**Date:** October 25, 2017 - January 21, 2018 and February 24 - March 10, 2018

**Location:** Ash Meadows NWR

**City and State:** Amargosa Valley, NV

**Partners Involved:**

**Event Name:** Quail Season

**Description:** Areas open to hunting are listed in the Ash Meadows NWR Hunting Regulations.

**Date:** October 14, 2017 - February 4, 2018

**Location:** Ash Meadows NWR

**City and State:** Amargosa Valley, NV

**Partners Involved:**

**Event Name:** Dove Season

**Description:** Areas open to hunting are listed in the Ash Meadows NWR Hunting Regulations.

**Date:** September 1 - October 30, 2017

**Location:** Ash Meadows NWR

**City and State:** Amargosa Valley, NV

**Partners Involved:**

**Event Name:** Cottontail Season

**Description:** Areas open to hunting are listed in the Ash Meadows NWR Hunting Regulations.

**Date:** October 14, 2017 - February 28, 2018

**Location:** Ash Meadows NWR

**City and State:** Amargosa Valley, NV

**Partners Involved:**

**Event Name:** Desert Bighorn Sheep Hunt

**Description:** 30 day hunt on the east half of the Desert NWR, 14 day opening on the Nevada Test and Training Range.

**Date:** December 2017

**Location:** Desert National Wildlife Refuge

**City and State:** Las Vegas, NV

**Partners involved:** U.S. Air Force, Nevada Department of Wildlife

**Event Name:** Desert Bighorn Sheep Hunt

**Description:** Units 283, 284, 286

**Date:** November 20 - December 20, 2017

**Location:** Desert NWR

**City and State:** Las Vegas, NV

**Partners Involved:** NDOW

**Event Name:** Desert Bighorn Sheep Hunt

**Description:** Units 280, 281, 282

**Date:** December 16, - December 31, 2017

**Location:** Desert NWR

**City and State:** Las Vegas, NV

**Partners Involved:** NDOW, U.S. Air Force

## **NORTH CAROLINA**

**Event Name:** National Hunting and Fishing Day on Roanoke River NWR

**Description:** Roanoke River NWR and The Town of Windsor are holding a joint National Hunting and Fishing Day event. Activities include Bow and Arrow, BB Tent (staffed by NCWRC), Shock Boat (NMF), Junior Duck Stamp NC Winners Art Exhibition, games, crafts, and vendors.

**Date:** September 28, 2017

**Location:** Roanoke River NWR

**City and State:** Williamston, NC

**Partners Involved:** Town of Windsor

## **NORTH DAKOTA**

**Event Name:** 28th Annual Physically Challenged Fishing Derby

**Description:** Individuals who are physically challenged will come to the hatchery to do some fishing. The majority of the anglers are children but we do have many "pros" that have been doing this event for years. Each person fishing will be able to catch 3 trout out of the pond at the hatchery. We have volunteers who clean the

fish so they can be taken home for supper.

**Date:** September 9, 2017

**Location:** Garrison Dam National Fish Hatchery

**City and State:** Riverdale, ND

**Partners Involved:** Great Planers Trout & Salmon Club

**Event Name:** Senior Fishing Derby

**Description:** Senior citizens from area nursing homes come to the hatchery to catch fish. They will be able to catch up to three trout at the pond. Each angler's fish are weighed to determine who had the biggest catch. Volunteers will clean the fish so the nursing home can cook them up for the residents.

**Date:** September 12, 2017

**Location:** Garrison Dam National Fish Hatchery

**City and State:** Riverdale, ND

**Partners Involved:** none

## **OKLAHOMA**

**Event Name:** Oklahoma Wildlife Expo

**Description:** U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service staff will be participating in the annual Oklahoma Wildlife Expo. Expo celebrates our great state's natural diversity and opportunities for the sporting enthusiasts and newcomers. From camping and outdoor skills to shooting sports, fishing and bird watching, Expo visitors have an opportunity to try their hands at two days of fun in the outdoors.

**Date:** September 23-24, 2017

**Location:** Lazy E Arena

**City and State:** Guthrie, OK

**Partners Involved:** Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation, all Oklahoma national wildlife refuges, National Wild Turkey Federation, Quail Forever/Pheasants Forever, Ducks Unlimited, Friends of the Wichitas, and numerous other partners.

**Event Name:** Youth Deer Hunt

**Description:** Ten youth hunters participate in the hunt and are allowed to harvest one antlerless white-tailed deer.

**Date:** October 6-7, 2017

**Location:** Washita National Wildlife Refuge

**City and State:** Butler, OK

**Partners Involved:** Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation

**Event Name:** Youth Deer Hunt

**Description:** Twenty-five youth hunters participate in the hunt and are allowed to harvest two white-tailed deer.

**Date:** October 13-15, 2017

**Location:** Deep Fork National Wildlife Refuge

**City and State:** Okmulgee, OK

**Partners Involved:** Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation

**Event Name:** Youth Deer Hunt

**Description:** Twenty youth hunters participate in the hunt and are allowed to harvest two white-tailed deer.

**Date:** October 19-20, 2017

**Location:** Tishomingo National Wildlife Refuge

**City and State:** Tishomingo, OK

**Partners Involved:** Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation

**Event Name:** Youth Deer Hunt

**Description:** Twenty-five youth hunters participate in the hunt and are allowed to harvest two white-tailed deer.

**Date:** October 20-22, 2017

**Location:** Sequoyah National Wildlife Refuge

**City and State:** Vian, OK

**Partners Involved:** Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation

**Event Name:** Youth Deer Gun Hunt

**Description:** Ten youth hunters participate in the hunt and are allowed to harvest two white-tailed deer.

**Date:** October 27-29, 2017

**Location:** Little River National Wildlife Refuge

**City and State:** Broken Bow, Oklahoma

**Partners Involved:** Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation

## OREGON

**Event Name:** Tualatin Youth Waterfowl Hunting Weekends

**Description:** Eight children per date (and a non-hunting guide) will hunt from four blinds at the refuge. There is no additional "event" attached to these hunts.

**Date:** Oct. 29, Nov. 11, Nov. 19, Nov. 25, Dec. 10, Dec. 16, Dec. 24, 2017

**Location:** Tualatin River National Wildlife Refuge

**City and State:** Portland, Oregon

**Partners Involved:** Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, Ducks Unlimited, Cabela's, local hunters (They won't be in attendance, but support the hunts in various ways.)

**Event Name:** Klamath Basin NWRC Pre-Season Youth Waterfowl Hunt

**Description:** This is a two day hunt which serves approximately 100 youth hunters ages 17 and under, held fourteen days prior to the opening of the general waterfowl hunting season. Youth hunters may hunt during state regulated shooting times. Partners host a free Bar-B-Q on Saturday for youth hunters and their adult companions from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., the Bar-B-Q is held at facilities located between the Lower Klamath and Tule Lake Refuges. The Refuges offer a list of volunteers and permitted guides willing to assist youth hunters on this hunt.

**Date:** September 23 & 24, 2017

**Location:** Upper Klamath, Klamath Marsh, Tule Lake and Lower Klamath National Wildlife Refuges

**City and State:** Tule Lake, CA; Klamath Falls, OR; Chiloquin, OR

**Partners Involved:** Cal-Ore Wetlands and Waterfowl Council, and the Klamath Falls, OR chapter of Ducks Unlimited; volunteers from these partners put on the BBQ as well as assist refuge staff with signing and prepping hunt areas.

**Event Name:** Tule Lake & Lower Klamath NWRs General Season Youth Waterfowl Hunts

**Description:** These three hunts serve approximately 200 youth hunters combined, ages 17 and under during the general hunting season. Youth hunters are allowed to shoot after 1:00 p.m. (regulated ending shoot time on these Refuges) to the end of state regulated shooting time. The Refuges offer a list of volunteers and permitted guides willing to assist youth hunters on these hunts.

**Date:** October 14, 21, and November 25, 2017

**Location:** Tule Lake and Lower Klamath National Wildlife Refuges

**City and State:** Tule Lake, CA; Merrill, OR

**Partners Involved:** Cal-Ore Wetlands and Waterfowl Council and the Klamath Falls, OR chapter of Ducks Unlimited.

**Event Name:** Tule Lake & Lower Klamath NWRs General Season Ladies Waterfowl Hunt

**Description:** This hunt serves approximately 35 hunters during the general hunting season. Women are allowed to shoot after 1:00 p.m. (regulated ending shoot time on these Refuges) to the end of state regulated shooting time. The Refuges offer a list of volunteers and permitted guides willing to assist women on this hunt.

**Date:** October 21, 2017

**Location:** Tule Lake and Lower Klamath National Wildlife Refuges

**City and State:** Tule Lake, CA; Merrill, OR

**Partners Involved:** Cal-Ore Wetlands and Waterfowl Council and the Klamath Falls, OR chapter of Ducks Unlimited.

## **SOUTH CAROLINA**

**Event Name:** Bears Bluff NFH Youth Fishing Clinic

**Description:** Bears Bluff National Fish Hatchery has partnered with a local tackle shop to provide fishing instruction to new and aspiring young anglers at the hatchery's fishing pond on station. The children register with the tackle shop, who supplies chaperones, bait, tackle, a fishing rod, food, and transportation. In order to provide high-level one on one instruction, the event is limited to the first 15 kids who register. Every kid leaves the session with a new fishing rod and enough instruction that they are ready to fish on their own.

**Date:** October 7, 2018

**Location:** Bears Bluff NFH

**City and State:** Wadmalaw Island, SC

**Partners Involved**

**Event Name:** Santee NWR Youth Hunts – Archery and Primitive Hunting

**Description:** At Santee NWR, a lottery youth hunt is set for September 29 and 30 and again October 6 and 7 at the refuge's Bluff Unit. A primitive weapon's hunt is set for October 6 - 8 at the refuge's Pine Island Unit. An archery only hunt is being held at the refuge's Cuddo Unit October 9 through 23. A primitive weapon hunt will be held on that unit as well October 6 - 8 and again October 27 - 30

**Date:** September 29 – October 30

**Location:** Santee NWR

**City and State:** Summerton, SC

**Partners Involved**

## **SOUTH DAKOTA**

**Event Name:** Youth Waterfowl Hunt

**Description:** The Huron Wetland Management District is hosting its 14th annual youth waterfowl hunt for youth hunters between the ages of 12 – 15 and (new) mentored hunters (10-11) interested in experiencing waterfowl hunting in the Huron area. Youth hunters and parents will have the opportunity to learn about various migratory birds and their habitats, hunting blinds, duck and goose calling, decoys, processing/cooking game, and various waterfowl hunting techniques. Participants will test their shooting skills; learn about waterfowl hunting, dog handling skills, gun safety, waterfowl calling, and general waterfowl hunting scenarios (land and water). Following the informational portion, we will group and review gun safety prior to heading out in the field in groups of three to four hunters per hunting guide.

**Date:** September 23rd

**Location:** Beadle County Sportsmen Club

**City and State:** Huron, SD

**Partners Involved:** Beadle County Sportsmen Club, Beadle County Chapter of Izaak Walton League, Huron, SD Chapter of Delta Waterfowl, Huron, SD chapter of Ducks Unlimited.

## **TENNESSEE**

**Event Name:** Tennessee and Cross Creeks NWR Archery Deer Hunting

**Description:** Tennessee and Cross Creeks NWRs will be open for archery deer hunting starting on Sept. 23 until the refuge closes for waterfowl sanctuary on Nov. 15.

**Date:** September 23 – November 15, 2017

**Location:** Tennessee and Cross Creeks NWRs

**City and State:** Dover and Springville, TN

**Partners Involved**

**Event Name:** Tennessee and Cross Creeks NWRs' Youth Deer Hunt

**Description:** Tennessee and Cross Creeks NWRs will have a youth deer hunt September 30 - October 1 and again October 28 and 29.

**Date:** September 30 – October 1 and October 28 – 29, 2017

**Location:** Tennessee and Cross Creek

**City and State:** Dover and Springville, TN

**Partners Involved**

**Event Name:** Hatchie NWR Youth Deer Hunt

**Description:** Hatchie NWR will host a quota gun hunt for white-tailed deer for youth hunters. Roughly 50 young people are expected to participate. It's weather dependent and a good turnout is expected.

**Date:** October 28 - 29

**Location:** Hatchie NWR

**City and State:** Stanton, TN

**Partners Involved**

**Event Name:** Reelfoot NWR Quota Deer Hunt

**Description:** Reelfoot NWR will host a white-tailed deer quota hunt on October 28-29

**Date:** October 28 - 29  
**Location:** Reelfoot NWR  
**City and State:** Union City, TN  
**Partners Involved**

## **TEXAS**

**Event Name:** International Bowhunters Education Class  
**Description:** Hunter education class prior to archery deer hunt which is scheduled from September 30 – October 8, 2017.  
**Date:** September 9, 2017  
**Location:** Aransas National Wildlife Refuge  
**City and State:** Austwell, TX  
**Partners Involved:** Texas Parks and Wildlife Department

**Event Name:** Refuge Day Festival  
**Description:** Event for visitors of all ages to engage in number activities including archery, BB gun ranges, fish casting, and fish identification.  
**Date:** October 14, 2017  
**Location:** Aransas National Wildlife Refuge  
**City and State:** Austwell, TX  
**Partners Involved:** Texas Parks and Wildlife Department

**Event Name: Kid Fishing Day**  
**Description:** The Texas Fish & Wildlife Conservation Office (TXFWCO, USFWS) in San Marcos, works with partners to conserve, protect, and enhance fish and other aquatic organisms and their habitats throughout Texas. As part of this work, the TXFWCO periodically conducts outreach events to promote these efforts. An expansion of these efforts will include our fourth annual Kid Fishing Day event, where we will host local youths (K-6) for a day of fishing, outdoor education, and fun  
**Date:** October 21, 2017  
**Location:** San Marcos Aquatic Resource Center  
**City and State:** San Marcos, TX  
**Partners Involved:** TXFWCO, SMARC, Cabela's, Academy, Dicks Sporting Goods, HEB, Chick fil A

## **VERMONT**

**Event Name:** Missisquoi Junior Waterfowl Training Day  
**Description:** This is the 41<sup>st</sup> year of this event.  
**Date:** August 19, 2017  
**Location:** Missisquoi National Wildlife Refuge  
**City and State:** Swanton, VT  
**Partners Involved**  
**Partners Involved**

## WASHINGTON

**Event Name:** Ridgefield Youth Waterfowl Hunting Weekend

**Description:** Up to 40 kids ages 15 and younger (and guides) will hunt from 20 blinds at the refuge. There is no additional "event" attached to these hunts.

**Date:** Nov. 4, 2017

**Location:** Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge

**City and State:** Ridgefield, Washington

**Partners Involved:** Western Waterfowl Association will provide calls, prizes, decoys and assistance to the young hunters.

**Event Name:** Carson National Fish Hatchery Kid's Fishing Day

**Description:** Kids 12 and younger fish for trout at the hatchery! Fishing poles, bait and cleaning provided. Migration Golf mini golf course and educational activities, light refreshments.

**Date:** September 9, 2017

**Location:** Carson National Fish Hatchery

**City and State:** Carson, WA

**Partners Involved:** Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

**Event Name:** Wenatchee River Salmon Festival

**Description:** Connect people of all ages to nature and help to build discovery and appreciation of the diversity and importance of the great outdoors via "edu-tainment," a fun filled experience that is both educational, interactive and fun at the same time. Activities include demonstrations and experiencing fishing and archery.

**Date: September:** September 28 & 29, 2017

**Location:** Leavenworth National Fish Hatchery

**City and State:** Leavenworth, WA

**Partners Involved:** US, Forest Service, Chelan County Public Utility District, Friends Of Northwest Hatcheries, Bureau of Reclamation, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, WA State Parks, Yakama Nation, Colville Tribe, Bonneville Power Administration, Army Corps of Engineers, Cascade and Cashmere School Districts, Chelan County Department of Natural Resources, Cascadia Conservation District, Icicl and others.

**Event Name:** Willapa Youth Waterfowl Hunt

**Description:** About eight children (and guides) will hunt at the refuge during this special youth hunt. There is no additional "event" attached to these hunts. (Note This is open to more hunters and we're trying to grow attendance, but typical turnout is about six to eight kids.)

**Date:** October 28, 2017

**Location:** Willapa National Wildlife Refuge

**City and State:** Long Beach, Washington

**Partners Involved:** Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, local waterfowl hunter association

**Event Name:** North Central Washington Youth Hunting and Fishing Event

**Description:** Youth will be given lessons on shooting various firearms, experience casting different types of rods and reels, as well as food, games, and prizes.

**Date:** Sept 16, 2017

**Location:** North Central Washington Gun Club

**City and State:** Wenatchee, WA

**Partners Involved:** Wenatchee Sportsmen Association, Team Naturaleza, USFWS, Cascadia Conservation District

## **WISCONSIN**

**Event Name:** Horicon Deer Hunting

**Description:** Auto tour closed for deer gun seasons.

**Date:** August 12 – November 26, 2017

**Location:** Horicon NWR

**City and State:** Mayville, WI

**Partners Involved**

**Event Name:** Horicon Deer Hunting

**Description:** Auto tour closed for deer gun seasons.

**Date:** August 22, 2017 – December 10, 2017

**Location:** Horicon NWR

**City and State:** Mayville, WI

**Partners Involved**

## **WEST VIRGINIA**

**Event Name:** Freshwater Folk Festival

**Description:** The Freshwater Folk Festival is a celebration of conservation. Many educational outreach vendors will be present including Trout Unlimited, Project Healing Waters, Natural Resource Conservation Service, National Park Service, U.S. Forest Service, West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection, WV Conservation agency, numerous watershed associations, and FWS programs. These vendors will be providing fun educational activities, including fly-fishing demonstrations and behind-the-scenes tours of the rainbow trout hatchery. In addition to educational outreach, musicians, food, and craft vendors will be there to provide additional entertainment and showcase their work. The event is sponsored in part by Friends of the White Sulphur Springs National Fish Hatchery, the Greenbrier County Convention and Visitor's Bureau, Greenbrier County Commission, and the WV Fairs and Festival Grant. This will be the 14th year for the festival; attendance ranges from 500 to 2000 people.

**Date:** September 9, 2017

**Location:** White Sulphur Springs NFH

**City and State:** White Sulphur Springs, WV

**Partners Involved:** Friends of the White Sulphur Springs National Fish Hatchery, the Greenbrier County Convention and Visitor's Bureau, Greenbrier County Commission, and the WV Fairs and Festival Grant, Trout Unlimited, Project Healing Waters, Natural Resource Conservation Service, National Park Service, U.S. Forest Service, West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection, WV Conservation agency, numerous watershed associations

**From:** [Morris, Charisa](#)  
**To:** [Rodgers, Kerry](#)  
**Cc:** [Foster, Maureen](#); [Apgar, Megan](#); [Greg Sheehan](#); [Jim Kurth](#); [Stephen Guertin](#); [Michael Gale](#); [Zachariah Gambill](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Quick Update on Proposed and Final Rules Expected to Clear through January 2018  
**Date:** Thursday, November 2, 2017 2:23:51 PM  
**Attachments:** [FWS Packages Anticipated to Clear Exec Sec 11.2.2017 thru 1.31.2018.docx](#)

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Please pardon our tardiness - please see attached for FWS packages anticipated to clear Exec Sec by the end of January.

On Thu, Nov 2, 2017 at 10:45 AM, Rodgers, Kerry <[kerry\\_rodgers@ios.doi.gov](mailto:kerry_rodgers@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Good morning,

Following up on our request yesterday, please provide a list of all of the proposed and final rules that you anticipate will be ready for DOI clearance between now and the end of January 2018. For each rule, include the (1) RIN, (2) title, (3) projected dates for DOI surnaming and clearance (e.g., begin surnaming on XX to clear by XX), and (4) any statutory or other deadlines (e.g., for civil penalties adjustments).

It may be easiest to update the dates in your 90-Day List for October-December 2017 and to add any rules that will be ready for clearance in January. Please reply to me and Megan by noon today.

Thanks in advance.

Kerry

Kerry E. Rodgers  
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[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





Nonresponsive Records	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

	Nonresponsive Records			
TBD	Proposed Rule to remove the ESA 4(d) Rule for Lions	TBD	TBD	
Nonresponsive Records				

**From:** [Patel, Kashyap](#)  
**To:** [Gareth Rees](#)  
**Cc:** [Greg Sheehan](#); [Jim Kurth](#); [Stephen Guertin](#); [Morris, Charisa](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Table for DepSec  
**Date:** Wednesday, January 31, 2018 1:34:38 PM  
**Attachments:** [Pending\\_Ele\\_Lion\\_Bonte\\_01-31 \(1\).docx](#)

---

sorry with attachment.

On Wed, Jan 31, 2018 at 1:32 PM, Patel, Kashyap <[kashyap\\_patel@fws.gov](mailto:kashyap_patel@fws.gov)> wrote:

Hi Gareth,

Here's an electronic copy of what I just handed to you, in case it helps getting it to David in time for his meeting.

Thanks,  
Kashyap

--

[Kashyap\\_Patel@fws.gov](mailto:Kashyap_Patel@fws.gov) | acting Deputy Chief of Staff, Office of the Director | U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service  
| [1849 C Street NW, Room 3348](#) | [Washington, DC 20240](#) | (202) 208-4923 |

--

[Kashyap\\_Patel@fws.gov](mailto:Kashyap_Patel@fws.gov) | acting Deputy Chief of Staff, Office of the Director | U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service  
| [1849 C Street NW, Room 3348](#) | [Washington, DC 20240](#) | (202) 208-4923 |

<b>Permit Application</b>	<b>Number of Applications Pending as of 1/31/18</b>	<b>Authorized for import in prior administration</b>	<b>Application for animal already taken versus planned future hunt</b>
Namibia Elephant	5	Yes	5/0
South African Elephant	7	Yes	6/1
Zimbabwe Elephant	35	Yes (no for 2014/15)	21/14
Zambia Elephant	2	No (yes for 2012)	0/2
Tanzania Elephant	2	Yes (no for 2014/15)	0/2
Mozambique Elephant	0	No	
Namibia Lion	1	No (yes prior to ESA listing Jan. 22, 2016)	
South African Lion	3	Yes (wild and wild managed only; all allowed prior to ESA listing Jan. 22, 2016)	3/0
Zimbabwe Lion*	7	No (yes prior to ESA listing Jan. 22, 2016)	4/3
Zambia Lion	4	No (yes prior to ESA listing Jan. 22, 2016)	2/3
Tanzania Lion	20	No (yes prior to ESA listing Jan. 22, 2016)	
Mozambique Lion	3	No (yes prior to ESA listing Jan. 22, 2016)	
South Africa Bontebok	66	Yes	
Namibia Black Rhinoceros	2	Yes	2/0

Regarding applications for future hunts, they were future hunts at the time the application was received, but the hunt may have occurred since the application was received. \*

\*Regarding Zimbabwe elephants and lions, all "taken" animals were taken during the period of our positive finding.

**From:** [Barbara Wainman](#)  
**To:** [Guertin, Stephen](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Testimony Pieces Cleared FWP  
**Date:** Friday, March 2, 2018 10:07:52 AM

---

Great thanks

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 2, 2018, at 6:10 AM, Guertin, Stephen <[stephen\\_guertin@fws.gov](mailto:stephen_guertin@fws.gov)> wrote:

We will cancel the call.

It was a placeholder so Marty and IA staff could check in on the timing strategy for the roll out on lions or something.

With DC offices closed doesn't look like DOI will be doing any rolls today

Thanks.

Steve

On Fri, Mar 2, 2018 at 8:58 AM, Barbara Wainman <[barbara\\_wainman@fws.gov](mailto:barbara_wainman@fws.gov)> wrote:

Are we still on for the call today at 1pm eastern. That is going to be a rough time for greg.

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 2, 2018, at 5:54 AM, Guertin, Stephen <[stephen\\_guertin@fws.gov](mailto:stephen_guertin@fws.gov)> wrote:

Thanks for the update. Looking forward to studying up for and participating in the hearing.

I will alert NWR program that since we now have hearing prep (internal) and the DOI hearing prep (afternoon) that they will have to cover the Wildlife Fire Leadership Council meeting on Monday.

Hope you have some snow out at Whitegrass!

Steve

On Fri, Mar 2, 2018 at 8:40 AM, Kodis, Martin <[martin\\_kodis@fws.gov](mailto:martin_kodis@fws.gov)> wrote:

Steve,

Apologies, I neglected to copy you on this last night. We drafted

testimony pieces and cleared through Cynthia. Then I was working with Barbara and Greg in some back and forth very late. I was over tired.

Jason replied this morning "good to go" so the attached is cleared through FWP and with DOI/OCL.

You are confirmed to be the witness on Tuesday morning. We do not have a time yet for the prebrief with political appointees and others on Monday, but the current prediction is some time between 2-4.

We'll work to get an extra briefing for you on your calendar for Monday -- with EA/CLA and maybe also refugees and budget folks?

I'm off today heading out on the road at some point. Angela is teleworking and beginning to put together your briefing book with some members of our team. She'll keep you updated and answer any questions you have.

Thanks all.

Marty

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

From: **Kodis, Martin** <[martin\\_kodis@fws.gov](mailto:martin_kodis@fws.gov)>

Date: Fri, Mar 2, 2018 at 2:19 AM

Subject: URGENT - Friday Morning - draft FWS testimony pieces for review - HNRC hearing on maintenance solutions

To: Jason Larrabee <[jason\\_larrabee@ios.doi.gov](mailto:jason_larrabee@ios.doi.gov)>, "Fink, Wendy" <[wendy\\_r\\_fink@ios.doi.gov](mailto:wendy_r_fink@ios.doi.gov)>

Cc: Greg Sheehan <[greg\\_j\\_sheehan@fws.gov](mailto:greg_j_sheehan@fws.gov)>, "Wainman, Barbara" <[barbara\\_wainman@fws.gov](mailto:barbara_wainman@fws.gov)>, "Barkin, Pamela"

<[pamela\\_barkin@ios.doi.gov](mailto:pamela_barkin@ios.doi.gov)>, Dominic Maione

<[dominic\\_maione@ios.doi.gov](mailto:dominic_maione@ios.doi.gov)>, Angela Gustavson

<[angela\\_gustavson@fws.gov](mailto:angela_gustavson@fws.gov)>, Micah Chambers

<[micah\\_chambers@ios.doi.gov](mailto:micah_chambers@ios.doi.gov)>

Hi Jason,

Please excuse this unusual method of testimony review and clearance. I think you're aware of the Tuesday hearing on innovative solutions to the maintenance backlog at DOI. DOI/OCL requested I send FWS testimony additions/pieces to you directly tonight and to the people copied here. There is no FWS DTS record.

DOI/OCL intends to send DOI testimony to OMB at 10am Friday. Can you please review and approve as early as possible in the morning via response to email?

The FWS inserts to the DOI draft testimony is attached in track changes. For ease of review, the relevant text is also pasted below. These FWS testimony portions were reviewed and approved by Greg Sheehan tonight.

As you may know, a late change in approach will have NPS and FWS each sending witnesses, with one piece of testimony from DOI being submitted. FWS was asked to expand the FWS pieces. Our testimony piece highlights the FWS maintenance backlog; importance of refuges to the public; examples of refuges that could benefit from the PLIF; and highlights as helpful the Administration's legislative proposal (in the 2018 and 2019 Budget Request) to collect damages to address harm refuges. The final paragraph on the legislative proposal is directly from the 2019 Green Book.

Finally, FYI, Pam Barkin is lead in DOI OCL on getting this out to OMB. Angela Gustavson is lead for FWS as Barbara and I are out tomorrow. Both are copied here.

Apologies for the unorthodox process and late email. Thank you.

Marty

FWS Testimony Bits

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While the NPS is the focus of this proposal, the Fund would also be used for deferred maintenance at Indian schools and national wildlife refuges. The BIE has maintenance responsibility for over 169 elementary and secondary schools and 14 dormitories which service 47,000 students. The estimated deferred maintenance backlog for BIE schools is \$634 million. The Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) manages 566 national wildlife refuges, and operates national fish hatcheries, fish technology centers and fish health centers. FWS is responsible for over \$46 billion in constructed real property assets that include over 25,000 structures (e.g., buildings and water management structures) as well as nearly 14,000 roads, bridges, and dams. The estimated deferred maintenance backlog for FWS facilities is \$1.4 billion.

-----

National wildlife refuges are a hub for outdoor recreation and conservation and are valued destinations for local residents as well as vacationers. Every state and territory has wildlife refuges and over 50 million people visit FWS refuges and hatcheries each year. They are places where families go on a weekend day to spend quality time outdoors. Hunters, anglers, and birders enjoy access to exceptional experiences at a relatively low cost. FWS lands generate over \$2 billion for local economies and support tens of thousands of private-sector jobs.

Examples of refuges that could benefit from the Fund include Big Oaks refuge in Indiana and Wallkill River refuge in New York and New Jersey. Big Oaks is home to more than 200 species of birds and 46 species of mammals, and the refuge has been designated as a “Globally Important Bird Area” because of its value to migratory birds. However, public access to Big Oaks is impaired because a bridge on the refuge has been closed since 2001. The bridge is deteriorated, unsafe, and has trees growing through it. Wallkill River refuge has many grassland birds, migrating waterfowl, wintering raptors, and endangered species. Public access to this refuge is also significantly reduced because its Papakating Valley Rail Trail is closed due to extensive, dangerous degradation. Rehabilitating it will expand 9.5 miles of former railroad beds into multi-purpose public trails.

Another way to reduce the maintenance backlog is for Congress to enact the Administration’s legislative proposal in the 2019 budget request to provide FWS with authority, similar to that of the National Park Service and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, to seek compensation from responsible parties who injure or destroy national wildlife refuges or other FWS resources. Under current law, when FWS resources are injured or destroyed, the costs of repair and restoration must be addressed through appropriations and are added to the maintenance backlog. Each year vandalism, trespassing, and other violations damage FWS assets. One example is a case of illegally created roads through Sequoyah refuge, Oklahoma, causing over \$175,000 in estimated damages; another is a trespass and illegal excavation of a pipeline at San Bernard refuge, Texas, with estimated response and repair costs of \$7.5 million.

--

Martin Kodis  
Chief, Division of Congressional and Legislative Affairs  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

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[Falls Church, VA 22041](#)

703-358-2241 ph  
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--

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[Falls Church, VA 22041](#)

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**From:** [Greg Sheehan](#)  
**To:** [Morris, Charisa](#)  
**Cc:** [Jim Kurth](#); [Stephen Guertin](#); [Zachariah Gambill](#); [Michael Gale](#); [Kashyap Patel](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Timing of RINS - seeking DO approval  
**Date:** Sunday, November 12, 2017 3:29:29 PM

---

Thanks Charisa

I believe that even with the EA process (if needed) and surname process that we could accelerate these dates by several weeks each.

Please reprioritize these in the workload to identify what can be placed on temporary hold to move these more quickly.

Kashyap please email me achievable revised timelines and anticipated needs for EA work and what that would entail on each.

Thanks

Greg

Greg Sheehan  
Principal Deputy Director  
US Fish and Wildlife Service  
202-208-4545 office  
202-676-7675 cell

On Nov 9, 2017, at 5:53 PM, Morris, Charisa <[charisa\\_morris@fws.gov](mailto:charisa_morris@fws.gov)> wrote:

Good afternoon-

At this point, I have the following to suggest to Greg as reasonable timelines, per the ADs:

1018-BC93 (Compatibility Regulations Pursuant to the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997): **03/00/2018**

1018-BC94 (Revising the Endangered Species Act Section 4(d) Rule for the African Elephant): **04/00/2018**

1018-BC95 (Revising the Endangered Species Act Section 4(d) Rule for the African Lion): **2/00/2017**

These timelines are based on staff work needed (revisions PLUS EAs if necessary) and surname deadlines. As a reminder, we need final dates to put into the system to fully process these RIN requests. Kashyap, please confirm DO-approved dates with Anissa Craighead.

Thanks!

Charisa

--

[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

**From:** [Bell, Gloria](#)  
**To:** [Guertin, Stephen](#)  
**Cc:** [Hoover, Craig](#)  
**Subject:** Re: two assignments for tomorrow Thursday  
**Date:** Wednesday, August 2, 2017 5:14:07 PM

---

Steve,

We're on it.

Thanks,  
Gloria

Gloria Bell | Acting Assistant Director for International Affairs | U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service  
5275 Leesburg Pike, MS: IA, Falls Church, Virginia, 22041-3803, USA | 703-358-1767  
[www.fws.gov/international](http://www.fws.gov/international) | [Sign up](#) for our e-newsletter to learn how we're working around the globe to protect species and their habitats!



On Wed, Aug 2, 2017 at 4:59 PM, Guertin, Stephen <[stephen\\_guertin@fws.gov](mailto:stephen_guertin@fws.gov)> wrote:

We will set up a meeting / conference call for tomorrow morning for two quick turn around assignments coming from the Deputy Secretary:

1. Lion trophy importation status

2. Nonresponsive Records

Jim and I will attend to work through these issues

Thanks

Steve

**From:** [Stephen Guertin](#)  
**To:** [Hoover, Craig](#)  
**Cc:** [Gloria Bell](#); [Tim Van Norman](#)  
**Subject:** Re: two assignments for tomorrow Thursday  
**Date:** Wednesday, August 2, 2017 9:22:53 PM

---

Thank you for the detailed updates; we can discuss tomorrow. Steve

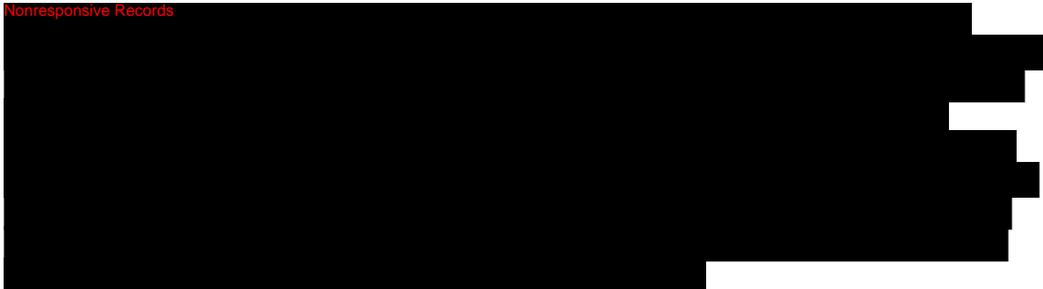
Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 2, 2017, at 5:52 PM, Hoover, Craig <[craig\\_hoover@fws.gov](mailto:craig_hoover@fws.gov)> wrote:

Steve,

Regarding lions, please find attached the internal briefing memo that we prepared for the briefing we did with the Secretary on lion and elephant sport-hunted trophies. The memo lays out the current status of lion findings, though I would note that the findings we indicated would be done in July are being finalized now. Most significant of these is the finding for South Africa, which authorizes imports of wild and wild-managed lions for three years, and continues to not allow import of captive lions. We should start issuing permits and denials within a week.

Nonresponsive Records



I can provide additional information as needed first thing tomorrow. Just let me know.

Best,

Craig

On Wed, Aug 2, 2017 at 4:59 PM, Guertin, Stephen <[stephen\\_guertin@fws.gov](mailto:stephen_guertin@fws.gov)> wrote:

We will set up a meeting / conference call for tomorrow morning for two quick turn around assignments coming from the Deputy Secretary:

1. Lion trophy importation status

2. 

Jim and I will attend to work through these issues

Thanks

Steve

--

Craig Hoover  
Chief, Division of Management Authority  
International Affairs  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
5275 Leesburg Pike  
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<Inf memo lion and elephant hunting 7-10-17 rev (2).docx>

**From:** [Hoover, Craig](#)  
**To:** [Guertin, Stephen](#)  
**Cc:** [Gloria Bell](#); [Tim Van Norman](#)  
**Subject:** Re: two assignments for tomorrow Thursday  
**Date:** Wednesday, August 2, 2017 5:52:42 PM  
**Attachments:** [Inf memo lion and elephant hunting 7-10-17 rev \(2\).docx](#)

---

Steve,

Regarding lions, please find attached the internal briefing memo that we prepared for the briefing we did with the Secretary on lion and elephant sport-hunted trophies. The memo lays out the current status of lion findings, though I would note that the findings we indicated would be done in July are being finalized now. Most significant of these is the finding for South Africa, which authorizes imports of wild and wild-managed lions for three years, and continues to not allow import of captive lions. We should start issuing permits and denials within a week.

Nonresponsive Records  
[Redacted]

I can provide additional information as needed first thing tomorrow. Just let me know.

Best,

Craig

On Wed, Aug 2, 2017 at 4:59 PM, Guertin, Stephen <[stephen\\_guertin@fws.gov](mailto:stephen_guertin@fws.gov)> wrote:

We will set up a meeting / conference call for tomorrow morning for two quick turn around assignments coming from the Deputy Secretary:

1. Lion trophy importation status

2. Nonresponsive Records  
[Redacted]

Jim and I will attend to work through these issues

Thanks

Steve

--

Craig Hoover  
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## INFORMATION/BRIEFING MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY

DATE: July 10, 2017

FROM: Greg Sheehan, Acting Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

SUBJECT: Lion and Elephant ESA listings and the permitting process

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide background on lion and elephant listings under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), the process for obtaining authorization under the ESA to import sport-hunted trophies, and the status of ESA findings for certain African countries.

### BACKGROUND

In December 2015, The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) listed the lion subspecies *Panthera leo leo*, located in India and west and central Africa, as endangered and listed *Panthera leo melanochaita*, located in eastern and southern Africa, as threatened. The Service also finalized a 4(d) rule for *Panthera leo melanochaita* that included the requirement that an import permit would need to be obtained prior to the import of any lion specimen.

The African elephant is listed as threatened (throughout its range) under the ESA and trade in African elephant specimens is regulated by a Section 4(d) rule of the Act (50 CFR 17.40(e)). On June 6, 2016, the Service published a final rule amending the Section 4(d) rule to, among other things, require the issuance of an ESA permit for all imports of African elephant trophies and ivory.

### DISCUSSION

In accordance with Service regulations for the implementation of the ESA (50 CFR 17.33), in order to issue an import permit for a personally hunted lion trophy, the applicant must demonstrate that the import of a sport-hunted lion trophy would enhance the propagation or survival of the species in the wild. However, for most sport-hunted trophy imports, the hunter typically does not have access to all of the information the Service needs to make a positive “enhancement finding.” To address this issue, the Service undertakes direct efforts to gather the information necessary to determine whether an “enhancement finding” can be made. To do so, the Service contacts the wildlife authority within the country where the trophy was taken to obtain information on the status of the species within the country, the management program for the species and how sport hunting is integrated into that management plan, how funds generated through hunting contribute to the conservation of the species, how local communities benefit from hunting operations, and other relevant information. Likewise, sport-hunted trophies of African elephants may only be authorized if the Service is able to find that the killing of the trophy animal will enhance the survival of the species, as called for in the 4(d) rule (50 CFR 17.40(e)).

Historically, more than 90% of sport-hunted lion trophies (approximately 400 per year) have been imported to the United States from South Africa. Therefore, the Service prioritized making an enhancement determination for South Africa. In October 2016, we completed a positive enhancement finding for “wild” and “wild-managed” lions from South Africa and a negative finding for “captive” lions. To date, the Service has authorized the import of nine wild/wild-managed lion trophies from South Africa taken in 2016. We have also denied five applications for the importation of captive-bred lions taken in South Africa in 2016. (See attachment 2 and 3).

As of July 10, 2017, we have the following pending applications for lions:

Mozambique –	3 applications for lions taken in 2016 or 2017
Namibia –	2 applications for lion taken in 2016 and 2017
Tanzania –	17 applications for lions taken in 2016 or 2017
South Africa –	11 applications for wild/wild-managed or captive-bred lions taken in 2017
Zambia –	16 applications for lions taken in 2016 or 2017
Zimbabwe –	17 applications for lions taken in 2016 or 2017

As of July 10, 2017, we have the following pending applications for elephants:

Namibia –	6 applications for elephants taken in 2014 (2 renewals), 2016 and 2017
Tanzania –	2 applications for elephants taken in 2016
South Africa –	11 applications for elephants taken in 2016 and 2017
Zambia –	4 applications for elephants taken in 2017
Zimbabwe –	37 applications for elephants taken in 2014 (3), 2016 or 2017

With regard to sport-hunted elephants, we currently have positive findings for the import of trophies from South Africa and Namibia. In 2014 and 2015, we completed negative findings for Tanzania and Zimbabwe, countries for which we previously had positive findings. We have not authorized the import of sport-hunted elephant trophies for any other countries that currently allow sport hunting. We are currently under litigation for our negative findings for both Tanzania and Zimbabwe.

## **NEXT STEPS**

Status of lion and elephant enhancement findings:

Mozambique – The Service has received information from Mozambique for both elephants and lions, and we are currently reviewing the material regarding the status of lions within the country and the management program that is currently in place for the species. Draft findings are underway.

Namibia – The Service has a positive finding for elephants. The Service has requested information regarding lions from Namibia on several occasions, but has not received any information regarding status of the lions in the country or the management regime for the species.

Tanzania – The Service has received information from Tanzania regarding the status of lions and elephants and their management programs. The material has been reviewed and we anticipate completing these findings by the end of July.

South Africa – The Service has a positive finding for elephants. Based on information received from South Africa and other sources, the Service made a positive finding for wild/wild-managed lions taken in 2016 and a negative finding for captive-bred lions taken in 2016. We are currently revising the finding for wild/wild-managed lions taken between 2017 and 2019 (South Africa's lion management plan for wild/wild-managed lions is valid until the end of 2019). We have received no new information for captive-bred lions that would change our current negative finding. The new finding will be completed by mid-July.

Zambia – The Service has received information from the Zambia Wildlife Authority on the status of lions in Zambia and their hunting programs for both lions and elephants. We have reviewed this information and have a draft finding that is currently being reviewed. We anticipate completing the finding by the end of July.

Zimbabwe – The Service has received and reviewed the information provided by Zimbabwe for both elephants and lions. We anticipate completing a new elephant finding in July, and a draft finding for lions is underway.

## **ATTACHMENTS**

None



• Nonresponsive Records

- [Redacted]
- [Redacted]
- [Redacted]
- [Redacted]

Please let me know if you have any questions,  
Charisa

--

[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

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[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

**From:** [Gale, Michael](#)  
**To:** [Linda Walker](#); [Phu, Linh](#); [Stephen Guertin](#); [Shaun Sanchez](#); [Cynthia Martinez](#); [Richard Johnston](#); [Robert Miller](#); [A Alvarez](#); [Katherine Spomer](#); [John Schmerfeld](#); [Julie Henning](#); [Bohnsack, Brian](#); [David Gordon](#); [Mike J Johnson](#); [Wainman, Barbara](#); [Matthew Huggler](#); [Doug Hobbs](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Weekly Report SO 3356: 10/6/17  
**Date:** Friday, October 6, 2017 5:26:06 PM  
**Attachments:** [Sportsmans Outreach Activities List - Fall 2017 v4.docx](#)  
[SO 3347 EO 13443 Actions FWS Only.docx](#)  
[FWS.WeeklyReport.10.6.17.docx](#)  
[FWS.Draft.ResponseStrategy.pdf](#)

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+ Doug Hobbs and External Affairs

Yes, thank you Linh and everyone for the incredibly quick turn around.

FYI, attached is the suite of briefing information we had prepared for FWP, including a new, updated Sportsmens Outreach Activities List.

When we brought this issue up during the meeting, they asked for us to discuss it with them on Tuesday's FWP catch-up meeting (which is longer and would allow for more discussion time). We'll circle back on how that conversation goes next week.

Michael

On Fri, Oct 6, 2017 at 5:21 PM, Linda Walker <[linda\\_d\\_walker@fws.gov](mailto:linda_d_walker@fws.gov)> wrote:

Thanks Michael. Also a big thank you to Linh who did a yeoman's job re crafting her weekly report after our conversation with Steve today. I will be very interested in hearing feedback from the briefing with ASFWP.

Sent from my iPad

**Linda D. Walker**

Division Chief - Visitor Services and Communications  
National Wildlife Refuge System  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
703-358-2172 desk  
571-419-0935 mobile

On Oct 6, 2017, at 2:54 PM, Gale, Michael <[michael\\_gale@fws.gov](mailto:michael_gale@fws.gov)> wrote:

I am printing these and out combining with a calendar product from EA / DO and will bring to the meeting. Michael

On Fri, Oct 6, 2017 at 2:44 PM, Phu, Linh <[linh\\_phu@fws.gov](mailto:linh_phu@fws.gov)> wrote:

Steve-

Attached is an updated report based on your guidance and recommendations at this mornings weekly meeting. Please let me know how it can be improved moving forward.

I've also attached a PDF of the draft of Services Response Strategy that will be an online table to track specific actions to achieve the directives in S.O. 3356 as well as record our

accomplishments in response to recommendations of S.O.3347. It still needs to be fleshed out, but it's a start.

Thanks, Linh

\*\*\*\*\*

Linh Phu  
Fish & Wildlife Biologist  
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Headquarters  
National Wildlife Refuge System  
[5275 Leesburg Pike](#)  
[Falls Church, VA 22041](#)  
[703-358-2575](#)

\*\*\*\*\*

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Michael Gale

Deputy Chief of Staff (Acting), Director's Office  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

202.208.4923 (office)  
571.982.2158 (cell)

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Michael Gale

Deputy Chief of Staff (Acting), Director's Office  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

202.208.4923 (office)  
571.982.2158 (cell)

## Sportsman's Outreach Efforts - Fall 2017

DATE	TITLE	DESCRIPTION	DOI OFFICIAL
TBD	"Restoring the Refuges" Initiative Announced	Service initiative to increase funding for National Wildlife Refuges	Video produced FWS. On hold for Budget.
8/2/17	Sportsman's Access Ramp Up Summit	Over 50 organizations for hunting, fishing, and shooting sports gathered at Main Interior.	Ryan Zinke, David Bernhardt, Todd Willens, Greg Sheehan
8/9/17	Hunting and Fishing Expanded at 10 National Wildlife Refuges	Announced proposal to expand hunting and fishing at 10 national wildlife refuges; bringing it up to 373 open to hunting and 312 to fishing.	FWS News Release
8/10/17	Sabinoso Wilderness Open to Hunting, etc. (New Mexico)	Process finalized for accepting land donation for Sabinoso Wilderness; includes access for hunting, etc.	DOI News Release
8/30/17	Wildlife and Hunting Heritage Conservation Council (WHHCC) rebooted	Teleconference to discuss implementing S.O. 3347, to increase outdoor recreation opportunities.	Jim Kurth (FWS)
8/31/17	International Importation Approvals (South African Lion)	Approval of the import of lion trophies taken in South Africa during permitted hunts.	International Affairs program
8/31/17	Blog on South African Lion decision	Open Spaces blog explaining South African Lion decision	HQ External Affairs posting
8/30/17	National Shooting Sports Month	Secretarial Proclamation enhancing recognition of shooting sports.	DOI, FWS
8/31/17	Opening Day Dove Hunt Social Media Messages	Posted August 31 Twitter message on opening of dove season and hunting seasons generally across U.S.	FWS HQ EA, HQ Migratory Bird Program
9/1/17	Everything You Need to Know About Hunting on Public Lands	Posted online information and resources about hunting opportunities on public lands.	DOI News Release
9/7/2017	National Hunting and Fishing Preliminary Survey Results Released	Announced preliminary findings of the 2016 National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, and Wildlife-Associated Recreation.	DOI News Release
9/7/17	Announcement of NAWCA Grants by MBCC	Announced award of grants that support wetlands conservation and public lands access.	DOI News Release

9/11/17	Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies (AFWA) Conference Keynote	Sheehan and Bernhardt delivered remarks at the plenary session.	Greg Sheehan & David Bernhardt
9/15/17	Launch of "Autumn of Hunting" communications campaign	Implement approximately 6 week communications campaign focused on hunting	FWS HQ EA, programs and regions
9/16/17	Duck Stamp Ceremony - University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point	Announce the winner of the 2017 Migratory Bird and Hunting Conservation Stamp art contest.	HQ Migratory Bird Program, FWS HQ EA
9/18/17	Secretarial Order to support and enhance hunting and fishing	Announcement that DOI bureaus will be submitting plans to increase hunting and fishing access and opportunities.	DOI News Release
9/18/17	Fish & Wildlife Service News	Summer issue of <i>Fish &amp; Wildlife Service News</i> released highlight outdoor recreation.	<i>Fish &amp; Wildlife Service News</i>
9/20/17	Wonders of Wildlife Museum – Springfield Event	Attend the opening ceremony for the Wonders of Wildlife Museum.	Secretary & Greg Sheehan
9/21/17	National Hunting and Fishing Month	Secretary Proclamation for October to recognize impacts of hunters/anglers.	DOI News Release and Congressional outreach
9/23/17	National Public Lands Day	Blog post encouraging volunteering and recreation public lands.	FWS HQ EA, programs, and regions
10/3/17	Private Lands Partners Day (Bangor, Maine)	Gathering of private landowners with Partners in Conservation.	Greg Sheehan spoke at the event
10/9/17	National Wildlife Refuge Week	Series of outreach events, including hunting/fishing events, and Congressional resolutions.	Cynthia Martinez, National Wildlife Refuge System, FWS HQ EA
October	Hunting and Fishing Expanded at 10 National Wildlife Refuges	Announcement of final rule to expand hunting and fishing at 10 national wildlife refuges.	Cynthia Martinez, National Wildlife Refuge System, FWS HQ EA
10/4/17	National Assembly of Sportsmen's Causes	Presentation on WSFR license certification	CLA
10/28/17	Celebrating Veterans and Sportsmen	Special event with the Secretary to highlight sportsmen and veterans.	Greg Sheehan

## **S.O. 3347 E.O. 13443 Actions, Barriers, and Recommendations – USFWS**

**E.O. Sec. 2(a) - Evaluate the effect of agency actions on trends in hunting participation and, where appropriate to address declining trends, implement actions that expand and enhance hunting opportunities for the public;**

### **Actions taken - S.O. Sec. 4.a.(1)a.**

- Hunting is a priority public use on national wildlife refuges, which means the Service prioritizes hunting opportunities in refuge planning and management. Over time, this focus has resulted in steady rates of participation in hunting and fishing on refuges despite declines in participation nationally. Agency actions to improve access and quality have included opening new areas to hunting, participating in efforts to recruit new users, and improving recreation infrastructure.
- Since 2006, the number of total hunting visits increased by 6%, with waterfowl hunts increasing 13% and other migratory bird hunts increasing 38%. Since 2005, there has been a 21% increase in reports of good quality hunting opportunities on national wildlife refuges.
- This steady growth has been during a time of decreased hunting and fishing participation more broadly (proportionally to the population); however, overall hunting visits have decreased by 3% in the past five years.
- Waterfowl hunt visits (+7%) and other migratory bird hunt visits (+12%) did increase in that same period of time.
- Working with the Flyway Councils on the revision of Adaptive Harvest Management protocols, examining harvest management objectives and regulatory packages (season length, bag limits) with respect to Flyway and hunter desires.
- In 2012 Revised the North American Waterfowl Management Plan (NAWMP) to include objective of improving numbers of hunters and other bird conservationists
- 2014 - 2017: Working with Human Dimensions and Recruitment/Retention/Reactivation (R3) groups to better understand motivations and desires of hunters to increase their satisfaction and attempt to recruit new hunters
- Developed new dove harvest strategy that expanded hunting opportunities
- In Alaska the Service participates in the biannual meetings of the Alaska Migratory Bird Co-Management Council reporting on the status of migratory birds used by subsistence hunters in Alaska. The Service addresses concerns, issues, questions brought forward to ensure hunting opportunities for Alaska migratory bird subsistence hunters may continue.
- The Service is engaged with the Wildlife and Hunting Heritage Conservation Council. We are working cooperatively to identify Wildlife Restoration Act eligible hunter recruitment, retention and reactivation activities.

### **Barriers to implement - S.O. Sec. 4.a.(1)b.**

- Fewer staff and curtailed hours at many refuges may be contributing to more recent declines in the number of hunting and fishing visits.

## **S.O. 3347 E.O. 13443 Actions, Barriers, and Recommendations – USFWS**

- Declines in the maintenance infrastructure funding also impacts our ability to maintain quality road and boating access.
- There are also technology barriers and data management challenges to support broader application and maintenance of digital media to engaging hunters and anglers.
- Insufficient staff resources to complete Adaptive Harvest Management Protocols as quickly as State partners would like.
- Insufficient resources to survey hunters to fully integrate human dimensions into the regulatory process

### **Recommendations - S.O. Sec. 4.a.(1)c.**

- Continue implementation of the Service's "Strategy to Increase Quality Hunting and Fishing on National Wildlife Refuges" that evaluates trends and outlines a number of actions that address ways to increase quality hunting and fishing opportunities on national wildlife refuges including welcoming signage program, and outdoor skills and mentoring programs and activities.
- Work through the Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies (AFWA) to develop and deliver training courses for managing high quality hunting and fishing programs.
- Continue to introduce new users near high population areas to hunting through introductory events and programs.
- Continue to work on the Adaptive Harvest Management (AHM) protocols with available staff and work with the Flyway Councils on emerging harvest management issues and complete the AHM revision process.
- Continue to work with the North American Waterfowl Management Plan (NAWMP) Human Dimensions working group to advance the goals of the 2012 revision of NAWMP.

### **E.O. Sec. 2(b) - Consider the economic and recreational values of hunting in agency actions, as appropriate;**

#### **Actions taken - S.O. Sec. 4.a.(1)a.**

- The Service regularly incorporates outdoor recreation interests and values through refuge conservation planning efforts, delivery of visitor services, and partnerships as well as considers the social and economic impacts of management actions in refuges.
- The Service also aims to periodically measure this return on investment. The agency's report, "Banking on Nature" showed that refuges in 2013 pumped \$2.4 billion into the economy and supported more than 35,000 jobs.
- More than 47 million people visit refuges every year with approximately 9.3 million of those being to hunt or fish.
- Additionally in 2015, the Service began using the Targeted Resource Acquisition Comparison Tool (TRACT) to inform land acquisition budget decisions, which

## **S.O. 3347 E.O. 13443 Actions, Barriers, and Recommendations – USFWS**

incorporates waterfowl hunter harvest data to identify areas of demand for public waterfowl hunting.

- Duck harvest management objectives are set to maximize harvest (opportunity) while ensuring the long term sustainability of duck populations. Current mid-continent mallard strategy is combination of 4 objectives: 1) maximize harvest, 2) keep mallards around indefinitely, 3) achieve the North American Waterfowl Management Plan population goal of 8.8 million mallards, and 4) provide the opportunity to hunt any time the mallards population size is greater than 5.5 million (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 2016a).
- 2015 - 2017 Developed a Rule on Alaska handicrafts allowing the sale of the non-edible parts for migratory game birds used in handicrafts by Alaska natives.
- Annually the Service provides funding to the Alaska Department of Fish and Game to conduct migratory bird subsistence harvest surveys to determine the economic, cultural and traditional importance of hunting migratory birds in Alaska during spring and summer.
- Implemented the International Black Duck Adaptive Harvest Management Strategy with Canada (2013). The goals of this strategy are to maintain the black duck population indefinitely, provide consumptive use, and maintain the societal values associated with the hunting tradition (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 2016b). Implementation of the harvest strategy resulted in the first liberalization of U.S. black duck hunting regulations since 1983.
- The National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, and Wildlife-Associated Recreation is a partnership effort with the States and national conservation organizations. The Survey is conducted every 5 years. The Service coordinates the Survey, and the U.S. Census Bureau collects the data by computer-assisted interviews. It is a useful tool that quantifies the economic impact of wildlife-based recreation. Federal, State, and private organizations use this detailed information to manage wildlife, market products, and look for trends. Funding for the survey comes from by grants from the Multistate Conservation Grant Program and State Wildlife Grant Program administrative funds.

### **Barriers to implement - S.O. Sec. 4.a.(1)b.**

- None.

### **Recommendations - S.O. Sec. 4.a.(1)c.**

- Implement new policy on the Migratory Bird Conservation Fund (MBCF) Procedures (341 FW 4) will require Service managers to consider a potential land acquisition's contribution to North American Waterfowl Management Plan goals before requesting MBCF funding for the acquisition.

## **S.O. 3347 E.O. 13443 Actions, Barriers, and Recommendations – USFWS**

### **E.O. Sec. 2(c) - Manage wildlife and wildlife habitats on public lands in a manner that expands and enhances hunting opportunities, including through the use of hunting in wildlife management planning;**

- Since 2005, 21 more units of the National Wildlife Refuge System are open to hunting for a total of 373 units and 86.4 million acres.
- Since 2012 (data was not collected prior) 41 more units of the National Wildlife Refuge System are open to fishing for a total of 276 units.
- Since 2005, the Service has increased the number of refuges offering a good quality hunting experiences by 21% and good quality fishing experience by 25%.
- Hunting continues to be an integral management tool to remove feral, invasive, and harmful wildlife species, as well as maintain healthy sustainable native wildlife populations. For example, in 2013 bow hunters harvested 26 feral hogs and 129 deer in three days of hunting at Blackbeard Island National Wildlife Refuge in Georgia.
- As a result of the Service's vision for the refuge system, in March 2014, the Service published a "Strategy to Increase Quality Hunting and Fishing on National Wildlife Refuges." The strategy outlines thirteen action items from training to increased coordination with states to welcoming and orienting new and existing users.
- Duck harvest management objectives set to maximize harvest (opportunity) while ensuring the long term sustainability of duck populations.
- 2011 - 2016: Authorized states to have an additional split or zone in their duck seasons which allows greater flexibility time the seasons when ducks are present. This action allows for greater opportunity to harvest ducks and increases hunter satisfaction.
- 2013 - 2016: Expanded early teal hunting opportunities by offering additional states September teal seasons, increasing the daily bag from 4 to 6 during the September teal seasons, or allowing 2 additional teal in the bag during part of the regular duck season.
- 2013 - 2016: Increased migratory game bird field possession limits from 2 to 3 times the daily bag limit.
- 2011 - 2016: Provided new hunting opportunities on sandhill cranes where it didn't exist previously (Eastern Population)
- 2017: Completed a proposed rule to allow hunting of Emperor geese
- Greatly expanded hunting opportunities for Canada and light geese
- 2017: Proposed increase in the number of permits to take tundra swans
- Developed new mourning dove harvest strategy that expanded hunting opportunities (increase in season length and bag limits)
- Approved new non-toxic shot types for the hunting of waterfowl
- Provided \$5.2 billion in funding to state fish and wildlife agencies from the Wildlife Restoration Act since FY08. State fish and wildlife agencies annually manage on average 26 million acres of state wildlife management areas and acquire on average 2 million acres per year. In addition, the funds are used by states for wildlife research and educational programs that support hunting safety and skills development.

## **S.O. 3347 E.O. 13443 Actions, Barriers, and Recommendations – USFWS**

**E.O. Sec. 2(d) - Work collaboratively with State governments to manage and conserve game species and their habitats in a manner that respects private property rights and State management authority over wildlife resources;**

### **Actions taken - S.O. Sec. 4.a.(1)a.**

- In 2008, the Service enacted policy directing hunting and fishing programs on refuges to be managed in coordination and cooperation with state fish and wildlife agencies (601 FW7 – Coordination and Cooperative Work with State Fish and Wildlife Agencies and 43 CFR-24 State/Federal Relationships).
- Across Service, managers work closely and regularly with their state counterparts at all levels from planning to seasonal law enforcement efforts.
- In 2011, the Service released a 10-year vision for the National Wildlife Refuge System, entitled "Conserving the Future." With Recommendation #17 that prioritized working closely with state fish and wildlife agencies to conduct a review of its current hunting and fishing opportunities."
- The Service Alaska Region together with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game and representatives from 10 Alaska Native representatives meet twice a year to evaluate migratory bird subsistence proposals, compare information on distribution, status and trends of waterfowl, and evaluate harvest and populations of birds.
- The Service provides \$230,000 in annual funding to the Alaska Department of Fish and Game to implement an annual migratory bird subsistence harvest survey as required by the amendment of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act.
- The Service and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADFG) work side by side to develop appropriate management plans for waterfowl in the Pacific Flyway. In 2016, the Service and ADFG cooperated and collaborated to write the 2016 Pacific Flyway Council Management Plan for Emperor Geese

### **Barriers to implement - S.O. Sec. 4.a.(1)b.**

- Good working relationships with state partners requires an investment of time and energy. This can be challenging given diminishing capacity.

### **Recommendations - S.O. Sec. 4.a.(1)c.**

- Continue implementation of the Service's strategic vision for the National Wildlife Refuge System, entitled "Conserving the Future." Specifically, Recommendation #17 entitled "The Service will work closely with state fish and wildlife agencies to conduct a review of its current hunting and fishing opportunities."
- Incorporate state coordination requirements into Service training related to hunting.

**E.O. Sec. 2(e) - Establish short and long term goals, in cooperation with State and tribal governments, and consistent with agency missions, to foster healthy and productive**

## **S.O. 3347 E.O. 13443 Actions, Barriers, and Recommendations – USFWS**

**populations of game species and appropriate opportunities for the public to hunt those species;**

### **Actions taken - S.O. Sec. 4.a.(1)a.**

- Short term goals are established through Refuge System Annual Hunt Fish Rule development. Long term goals are established during planning efforts such as Refuge System Comprehensive Conservation Plans and Service wide geographic collaborative networks which engage with states, tribes and other stakeholders, including industry.
- Established migratory game bird population objectives in our Adaptive Harvest Management protocols and other harvest strategies to help provide maximum opportunity while ensuring the long-term sustainability of migratory game bird populations.
- The Service annually works through the Migratory Bird Joint Ventures (collaborative, regional partnerships of government agencies, non-profit organizations, corporations, tribes, and individuals) to conserve habitat for the benefit of priority bird species, other wildlife, and people.
- Publication of a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement in 2013 regarding the issuance of annual regulations permitting the hunting of migratory birds
- With funding from the Service's State Wildlife Grant (SWG) Program, state-Federal partners in the Northeast have successfully averted Federal listing of the New England Cottontail Rabbit, a Candidate for ESA listing since 2006. In 2015, due to this state-Federal collaboration, the species was removed from Candidate status. Through "proactive" conservation, a new listing was avoided and associated costs to private landowners and others averted.

### **Barriers to implement - S.O. Sec. 4.a.(1)b.**

- None.

### **Recommendations - S.O. Sec. 4.a.(1)c.**

- The Refuge System will continue to coordinate with the states to align and simplify refuge hunting and fishing regulations, where compatible with state seasons.

**E.O. Sec. 2(f) - Ensure that agency plans and actions consider programs and recommendations of comprehensive planning efforts such as State Wildlife Action Plans, the North American Waterfowl Management Plan, and other range-wide management plans for big game and upland game birds;**

### **Actions taken - S.O. Sec. 4.a.(1)a.**

- The Service's Strategic Growth Policy for the National Wildlife Refuge System (602 FW 5) identifies achieving North American Waterfowl Management Plan population objectives as one of three Service's priorities for the growth of the Refuge System.

## **S.O. 3347 E.O. 13443 Actions, Barriers, and Recommendations – USFWS**

- Working with the Flyway Councils on the revision of Adaptive Harvest Management protocols, examining harvest management objectives and regulatory packages (season length, bag limits) with respect to Flyway and hunter desires.
- Migratory Bird Program has consulted and provided data on waterfowl populations to assess National Wildlife Refuge System acquisitions to benefit priority waterfowl species defined in the North American Waterfowl Management Plan. These species are assigned priority based on their importance in the North American waterfowl harvest and their population trend.
- The 21 Migratory Bird Joint Ventures (JVs) incorporate the goals, objectives, and recommendations of the North American Waterfowl Management Plan, Partners in Flight Landbird Conservation Plan, U.S. Shorebird Conservation Plan, North American Waterbird Conservation Plan, and State Wildlife Action Plans. The Service Migratory Bird Program provides leadership and support to conduct activities in support of these bird conservation goals and for priority landscapes.
- Through funding provided by the State Wildlife Grant (SWG) Program the Service provides the framework and capacity for state fish and wildlife agency to develop, plan and execute State Wildlife Action Plans (SWAPs).

### **Barriers to implement - S.O. Sec. 4.a.(1)b.**

- None.

### **Recommendations - S.O. Sec. 4.a.(1)c.**

- None.

**E.O. Sec. 2(g) - Seek the advice of State and tribal fish and wildlife agencies, and, as appropriate, consult with the Sporting Conservation Council and other organizations, with respect to the foregoing Federal activities.**

### **Actions taken - S.O. Sec. 4.a.(1)a.**

- The Service continues its commitment to working with the States to implement hunting and fishing programs as well as to work cooperatively with Wildlife and Hunting Heritage Conservation Council.
- The Service promulgates the annual Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations in consultation/partnership with the states through their involvement in the four Flyway Councils. For over 70 years, the Service has worked collaboratively with the Flyway Councils to evaluate proposals regarding available species, season lengths, bag limits, and other factors related to sport hunting of migratory birds.
- The Service promulgates the annual AK Subsistence Harvest Regulations in consultation with the Alaska Migratory Bird Co-management Council (AMBCC) which consists of the Service, Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game and representatives of Alaska's native

## **S.O. 3347 E.O. 13443 Actions, Barriers, and Recommendations – USFWS**

population. The primary purpose of the AMBCC is to conserve migratory birds through development of regulations for the subsistence bird harvest in Alaska.

- Establishment of a sport and subsistence harvest season on Emperor Geese in Alaska in consultation with the Alaska Migratory Bird Co-management Council.
- Annually consult with approximately 30 Tribes to establish special tribal hunting regulations for migratory game birds (includes species open to hunting, season length, bag limits, hunting methods and areas open to hunting),
- The Service regularly works with the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, the Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, the Wildlife Management Institute and others on migratory bird hunting issues.
- The Service Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration program (WSFR) regularly coordinates with the Service's liaison to the Hunting Heritage Council to offer information for Council meetings. WSFR works closely with State fish and wildlife agencies in discussing and recommending policy changes for the WSFR program through the State-Federal Joint Task Force on Federal Assistance Policy which meets at least twice annually.

### **Barriers to implement - S.O. Sec. 4.a.(1)b.**

- None.

### **Recommendations - S.O. Sec. 4.a.(1)c.**

- The Refuge System supports the Service's liaison to the Wildlife Hunting and Heritage Conservation Council (WHHCC) and will continue to use that forum as one of many ways to seek advice on future Federal activities.

### **S.O Sec. 4(a)(2) - Report to the Secretary within 30 calendar days with specific recommendations to enhance recreational fishing, specifically regarding efforts to enhance and expand recreational fishing access.**

#### **Actions taken - S.O. Sec. 4.a.(1)a.**

- None.

### **Barriers to implement - S.O. Sec. 4.a.(1)b.**

- None.

### **Recommendations - S.O. Sec. 4.a.(1)c.**

- Modernization of National Fish Hatchery facilities to enhance fish rearing capacity
- Maintain healthy fisheries by limiting the introduction, establishment and spread of harmful invasive species.

## **S.O. 3347 E.O. 13443 Actions, Barriers, and Recommendations – USFWS**

- Enhance fish habitat by removing fish passage barriers through the National Fish Passage Program.
- Support and enhance the Urban Refuge Initiative that will provide opportunities for urban youth and their families to experience fishing for the first time.
- Continue support for providing additional fishing access on National Wildlife Refuge System properties.
- Participate in the Recreational Boating & Fishing Foundation’s “60 in 60” initiative to achieve 60 million U.S. anglers in the next 60 months (by 2021), which could contribute to a more than \$500 million increase in fishing license revenue over the next five years, a \$35 billion annual increase in economic contributions from anglers and a \$10 billion annual increase in economic contributions from boaters.
- Participate in RBFF’s pilot “First Catch Center” program to establish learning centers across the country that combine hands on activities with traditional lessons in fishing and boating skills and conservation.
- Expand outreach and communication initiatives that incorporate high quality messaging to increase fishing participation.

# FWS S.O. 3356 Weekly Report: 10/6/17

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- Developing Response Strategy Table to include specific S.O. 3356 directives, Recommendations of S.O. 3347. Details will include specific action items and accomplishments that will be reported out on weekly basis to leadership.
- Response to permitting recommendations for guides and outfitters (Sec 4.b.5, due 10/15/17) is in DTS (DCN 066714). Currently in leadership review.
- In response to Sec. 4.a.(1)c, the Service's Migratory Bird Program have taken the following actions on recommendations.
  - Working with the Flyway Councils and the Canadian Wildlife Service, implementation of the international Adaptive Harvest Management protocol for black ducks has resulted in an additional bird in the daily bag for the 2017 hunting season increasing the daily limit from 1 to 2 birds for the first time since 1983
  - Working with the North American Waterfowl Management Plan Human Dimensions Work Group and Flyway Councils, nation-wide stakeholder surveys of waterfowl hunters, viewers, and the general public were conducted in the summer of 2017. Analyses are currently underway to summarize the survey results to inform implementation of the 2012 North American Waterfowl Management Plan and 2018 Update.
- Service solidifies commitment to "60 in 60" Initiative and Announcement Pending- The Service Director has signed the MOU committing the Service to the Recreational Boating and Fishing "60 in 60" initiative to increase fishing participation nationwide. The MOU will be announced jointly by the signatory agencies in the near future. Other signatory agencies include the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, American Sportfishing Association, National Marine Manufacturers Association, Recreational Boating and Fishing Foundation, as well as the Bureau of Land Management and the Forest Service.
- Service to release the Notice of Funding Opportunity for the National Outreach and Communication Program - The Service will soon post a Notice of Funding Opportunity for a five year cooperative agreement for the National Outreach and Communication Program for sport fishing and boating. This funding provides approximately \$12 million annually for efforts to increase fishing and boating participation nationwide. The Recreational Boating and Fishing Foundation has been the recipient of previous funding opportunities.

- Senior staff from the Fish and Aquatic Conservation (FAC) and External Affairs programs met last week in Denver to develop a comprehensive communications plan. The communications plan will promote participation in fishing and boating and educate the public about the essential role the FAC program plays in sustaining recreational fisheries nationwide.
- The Service is finalizing Director's Memo directing regions to nominate a Regional Hunting & Fishing Chief

Reference	Section 4 Directive #	Directive Language * some have been split to show multiple actions	Deadline	Due to Dept
		<b>a. SO 3347</b>		
SO 3356	a.1	Implement the specific recommendation to SO3347 to enhance recreational fishing (spc efforts to enhance/expand rec fishing access)	N/A	
SO 3356	a.2	Provide detailed implementation plan for FWS to implement other recommendations to SO 3347	120 days	1/15/2018
		<b>b. Dept Land &amp; Waters</b>		
SO 3356	b.1	Amend National Monument Management Plans to include or expand hunting, recreational shooting, fishing opportunities	N/A	
SO 3356	b.2	Identify lands and waters where access to Dept lands & waters, particularly access for hunting, fishing, rec shooting, and outdoor recreation, is limited...but where there is opportunity to gain access through voluntary easements, ROW, acquisitions. Provide report to Deputy Secretary detailing such lands and waters	60 days	11/15/2017
SO 3356	b.3	Online "One Stop" Departmental site database of available opportunities for hunting, fishing, recreational shooting on Dept Land Waters (cooperate, coordinate, create, make available, update)	365 Days	9/15/2018
SO 3356	b.4	Identify whether hunting, fishing, and/or recreational shooting opportunities on Depart lands can be expanded and provide recommendations to Deputy Sec on where expansions may occur	60 days	11/15/2017
SO 3356	b.5	Examine & provide recommendations to Deputy Secretary on how to streamline/improve permitting process for guides & outfitters on Dept Lands &	30 days	10/15/2017
SO 3356	b.6	Incorporate analysis of the impacts of Federal Land and water management actions on hunting, fishing, recreational shooting access in planning and decision making	N/A	
		<b>c. Hunting/Fishing/Rec Shooting Participation</b>		
SO 3356	c.1	Identify opportunities to help provide voluntary public access to private lands & waters for hunting and fishing	N/A	
SO 3356	c.2	Identify grant and/or cooperative agreement opportunities that may be made available for community programs for hunting, fishing, rec shooting participation re: recruitment, retention, reactivation	60 days	11/15/2017

SO 3356	c.3	Work with veterans and youth programs to provide hunting, fishing, and rec shooting mentor training programs	N/A	
		<b>d. Working w/ state, tribal, local partners</b>		
SO 3356	d.1	Identify full-time employees who are responsible for access to hunting, fishing, rec shooting and other outdoor rec opportunities on Dept lands and waters and work in close collaboration w/ state and local partners on efforts	N/A	
SO 3356	d.2	Coordinate w/ state, tribal, territorial wildlife management agencies to identify opportunities for increased access to Dept lands & waters, including identifying opportunities for access through adjacent private lands	N/A	
SO 3356	d.3*	Collaborate w/ State, tribal, territorial fish & wildlife agencies to attain/sustain wildlife population goals during Dept land management planning and implementation	N/A	
SO 3356	d.3*	Prioritizing active habitat management projects and funding that contribute to achieving wildlife populations objectives, particularly for game species	N/A	
SO 3356	d.3*	Identifying additional ways to include or delegate to states habitat management work on Federal Lands	N/A	
SO 3356	d.4	Work cooperatively w/ state, tribal, and territorial wildlife agencies to enhance their access to Dept lands for wildlife management actions	N/A	
SO 3356	d.5	Develop proposed Categorical exclusion for proposed projects that utilize common practices solely intended to enhance/restore habitat for species such as sage-grouse and/or mule deer	180 days	3/15/2018
		<b>d.6. Waterfowl</b>		
SO 3356	d.6	Significantly increase migratory waterfowl populations and hunting by	N/A	
SO 3356	d.6.a	Enhancing and improving use of voluntary perpetual grassland and wetland conservation easements	N/A	
SO 3356	d.6.b	Expanding habitat and water conservation/protection efforts on wintering habitats	N/A	
SO 3356	d.6.c	Assessing and utilizing sound science to direct the development of proposed project and/or policy proposals to enhance waterfowl production	N/A	
SO 3356	d.6.d	Identify partnerships and resources opportunities	N/A	

SO 3356	d.6.e	Utilize sound scientific evidence in conjunction with landowner/stakeholder input	N/A	
		<b>d.7 to d.8 Regulatory Alignment</b>		
SO 3356	d.7	Work cooperatively w/ state, tribal, and territorial wildlife agencies to ensure that hunting and fishing regulations for Dept lands/waters complement the regulations on the surrounding lands/waters to extent legally possible	N/A	
SO 3356	d.8	Begin necessary process to modify regulations in order to advance shared wildlife conservation goals/objectives that align predator-management programs, seasons, and methods of take permitted on all Dept managed lands and waters w/ corresponding programs, season, and methofs established by state, tribal, and territorial wildlife management agencies	180 days	3/15/2018
		<b>e. Guidance &amp; Documentation</b>		
SO 3356	e.1	Create an implementation plan to update all exisiting regs, orders, guidance documents, policies, instructions, manuals, directives, notices, implementation actions, new employee training orders, and any other similar action to be consistent with this order	180 days	3/15/2018
SO 3356	e.2	Review and use best available science to inform the development of specific guidelines for Dept lands/waters related to planning and developing energy transmission, infrastructure, or other relevant projects	180 days	3/15/2018
		<b>f. SES Performance</b>		
SO 3356	f	Heads of Bureaus will ensure that appropriate SES employees include performance standard in their respective current or future performance plan that specifically implements the applicable actions ID in this order		

**From:** [Nolin, Chris](#)  
**To:** [Charisa Morris](#); [Kashyap Patel](#)  
**Cc:** [Stephen Guertin](#); [Deborah Paige](#); [Brent, Jesse](#)  
**Subject:** Revised QFRs  
**Date:** Monday, May 7, 2018 3:16:41 PM  
**Attachments:** [Updated Sec. QFRs 5.4.docx](#)

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Attached are the revised QFRs. I also uploaded them to DTS 067985.

Deborah have you seen the physical package? Not sure I know how to route it back again correctly.

Thanks

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Falls Church, VA 22041-3803

## Habitat Conservation Plans

DOI is in control of a very effective force multiplier that facilitates infrastructure development in a way that saves time, money, and avoids litigation all the while meeting obligations under the Endangered Species Act, namely Multi Species Habitat Conservation Plans (HCPs).

**Calvert Q19:** How can DOI most effectively staff so as to expedite the approval and maximize the impact of HCPs?

**Response:** The US Fish and Wildlife Service is placing a priority on providing technical assistance for large, multi-species HCPs over project specific ones. In addition, through the 2016 Habitat Conservation Planning Handbook, we address how to streamline review processes and expedite approval. We are also entering into agreements with applicants who are willing to provide funds for dedicated Service staff to specifically address the needs of their project and expedite the plan development and permitting [process][BAP1][BAP2].

**Calvert Q20:** How can DOI best expand and expedite their planning and land acquisition grants?

**Response:** The Service is not requesting funding in the FY 2019 Budget request for HCP planning and land acquisition grants under the Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund, in order to support higher priorities. The Service will continue to provide technical assistance to States and landowners to expedite the approval and maximize the impacts of HCPs to the extent that resources permit.

**Calvert Q21:** How can DOI accommodate HCPs making necessary amendments to their plans without risking having to reopen their entire plan?

**Response:** The 2016 Habitat Conservation Planning Handbook (Chapter 17.4) provides specific guidance about HCP amendments. First, the guidance describes administrative changes that would be processed internally, would not require public notice and comment, and would therefore not reopen the plan. Second, the guidance makes clear that, when the scope of the amendment is such that it would require a *Federal Register* notice to seek public comment, we will be limiting public review and comment only to the proposed change and not reopening the entire HCP for revision.

## African Elephant Sport Trophy-Hunting

On November 17, 2017 the Fish and Wildlife Service published a notice in the Federal Register that killing African elephant trophy animals in Zimbabwe, between January 2016 and December 2018, will enhance the survival of the African elephant and permit import of body parts. The Obama Administration banned elephant trophy hunting imports from Zimbabwe arguing the agency did not have strong enough reason to believe that the country was properly regulating trophy hunting.

The Service made this policy change at the time Zimbabwe was in the middle of a military coup.

**McCollum Q13:** Why was reviewing the trophy import policy a priority?

**Response:** The Fish and Wildlife Service is obligated under the Endangered Species Act and its implementing regulations to process permit applications, including for the import of sport-hunted trophies. Our review of available information led to a negative enhancement finding under the Endangered Species Act for elephants taken in Zimbabwe during 2014 and 2015. More recently, our review of the available information led to a positive enhancement finding for elephants taken in 2016 (on or after January 21), 2017 and 2018. We have since rescinded all of these country-wide findings and intend to process permit applications on a case-by-case basis in response to the D.C. Circuit Court's opinion in *Safari Club Int'l, et al. v. Zinke, et al.*, No. 16-5358 (D.C. Cir., Dec. 22, 2017).

**McCollum Q14:** What new analysis and evidence did the Service use as the basis for its withdrawal?

**Response:** When the Service issued a positive enhancement finding for 2016 (on or after January 21), 2017 and 2018, it did not withdraw the previous negative enhancement finding under the Endangered Species Act for elephants taken in Zimbabwe during 2014 and 2015. Rather, we issued a new finding covering a different time period. We received substantial new and additional information regarding elephant status and management in Zimbabwe, including the adoption and implementation of a National Elephant Management Plan. This information was detailed in the positive finding which, as noted above, has since been rescinded.

**McCollum Q15:** Were any outside groups consulted before the Service made this decision?

**Response:** We receive and consider information from a variety of sources. We did not formally seek public comment via the Federal Register or go through formal rule-making, which was the basis for the D.C. Circuit Court's opinion that our negative 2014 and 2015 findings for Zimbabwe were invalid. We have since rescinded all of these country-wide findings and intend to process permit applications on a case-by-case basis in response to the D.C. Circuit Court's opinion.

**McCollum Q16:** President Trump in a television interview with Piers Morgan criticized resuming trophy imports from Zimbabwe and said he turned that order around, why wasn't the Administration informed about this withdrawal before it happened?

**Response:** As noted in the response to Q14 above, the Service did not withdraw a finding; rather, it issued a new finding covering a different time period. As noted above, all of these findings have since been rescinded in response to the D.C. Circuit Court's opinion in Safari Club Int'l, et al. v. Zinke, et al., No. 16-5358 (D.C. Cir., Dec. 22, 2017).

**McCollum Q17:** Why was the turmoil within Zimbabwe not considered as a factor in favor of keeping the ban in place? Who approved moving forward on the release of the withdrawal at that time?

**Response:** Enhancement findings under the Endangered Species Act are made by the Fish and Wildlife Service's Division of Management Authority. The actions within Zimbabwe during November 2017 were taken into consideration, and the Division of Management Authority issued a supplemental finding on November 24 suspending its positive enhancement finding for elephants taken on or after November 14, 2017, until clarity and certainty regarding governance in Zimbabwe could be verified. As noted above, all of these findings have since been rescinded

in response to the D.C. Circuit Court's opinion in Safari Club Int'l, et al. v. Zinke, et al., No. 16-5358 (D.C. Cir., Dec. 22, 2017).

~~On [BAP2] March 1, 2018 the Principal Deputy Director of the Fish and Wildlife Service issued a memorandum withdrawing, effective immediately, the 2014 and 2015 Endangered Species Act (ESA) enhancement findings for the head, tusks, and other body parts of hunted African elephants from Zimbabwe, and additionally withdrew ESA enhancement and CITES non-detriment findings for lions, elephants and bontetok in a number of other countries. Interior will now review requests on a case by case basis.~~

**McCollum Q18:** On [BAP4] March 1, 2018 the Principal Deputy Director of the Fish and Wildlife Service issued a memorandum withdrawing, effective immediately, the 2014 and 2015 Endangered Species Act (ESA) enhancement findings for the head, tusks, and other body parts of hunted African elephants from Zimbabwe, and additionally withdrew ESA enhancement and CITES non-detriment findings for lions, elephants and bontetok in a number of other countries. Interior will now review requests on a case-by-case basis.

Discuss the basis for this decision when data on declining elephant populations carried on the Service website states, “Across Africa, an estimated 100,000 elephants were killed for their ivory between 2010 and 2012, and the continent-wide estimate for all elephants has now been revised downward to 420,000. Despite some progress in halting and stabilizing the resurgence of elephant poaching since 2011, in some areas, Africa's elephants are still being poached at higher rates than they can naturally reproduce.”

**Response:** The Service’s positive enhancement finding for Zimbabwe for 2016 (on or after January 21), 2017 and 2018, was based on substantial new and additional information regarding elephant status and management in Zimbabwe, including the adoption and implementation of a National Elephant Management Plan. This information addressed concerns raised in our previous negative finding for 2014 and 2015. However, as noted above, these findings have now been rescinded. The Service’s decision to withdraw these and all other country-wide ESA enhancement findings was solely in response to the D.C. Circuit Court's opinion in Safari Club Int'l, et al. v. Zinke, et al., No. 16-5358 (D.C. Cir., Dec. 22, 2017).

**McCollum Q19:** Discuss the process in place to review these requests, what office/personnel are responsible for making these determinations and what criteria are they using? How are conservation efforts being analyzed and considered? What are your estimates of the additional cost and time that will be spent examining and processing requests for the import of animal parts as trophies under the new policy of case-by-case review? Will the Service be tracking how many applications are filed and authorized that would have previously been denied under the ESA enhancement or CITES non-detriment findings withdrawn in the March 1 memorandum?

**Response:** The Service’s Division of Management Authority processes thousands of permit applications each year, and most of these applications are reviewed on a case-by-case basis. With regard to those applications previously covered by a country-wide enhancement finding, the Service intends to use the information cited in these findings and contained in its files as

appropriate, in addition to the information it receives and has available when it receives each application, to evaluate individual permit applications.

The Service is continuing to monitor the status and management of these species in their range countries. When the Service processes these permit applications, the Service will do so on an individual basis, including making ESA enhancement determinations, and CITES non-detriment determinations when required, for each application. The Service will grant or deny permits to import a sport-hunted trophy on a case-by-case basis pursuant to its authorities under the ESA and CITES. As part of the permitting process, the Service reviews each application received for import of such trophies and evaluates the information provided in the application as well as other information available to the Service as to the status of and management program for the species or population to ensure that the program is promoting the conservation of the species. Each application must also meet all other applicable permitting requirements before it may be authorized.

We do not have an estimate of the additional cost or time required to process these applications on a case-by-case basis, though we note that this is already the case for most of the applications we process. We will maintain records of each application, including each permit issued or application denied.

**McCollum Q20:** How are you ensuring there is a clear connection between money that will be spent for these hunting trips and the conservation and protection of these iconic animals?

**Response:** Revenue generation is just one aspect that we may consider in determining whether the import of a sport-hunted trophy enhances the survival of the species in the wild. In evaluating whether financial resources are being used for conservation, including protected area management, anti-poaching patrols, support to local communities, etc., we seek information from the governments directly as well as from other organizations and individuals.

### **Advisory Board: International Wildlife Conservation Council**

On November 8, 2017 Secretary Zinke announced the creation of a 16 member International Wildlife Conservation Council to provide advice and recommendations on the benefits that international recreational hunting has on foreign wildlife and habitat conservation, anti-poaching and illegal wildlife trafficking programs.

**McCollum Q21:** You have outlined that one of their duties will be to recommend removal of barriers to the importation of legally hunted wildlife. Does this include African elephants, lions and rhinos?

**Response:** Yes, [they may consider importation barriers to any legally hunted wildlife.](#)

**McCollum Q22:** How have you ensured diverse perspectives are represented on this board?

**Response:** IWCC membership was selected to ensure it is fairly balanced in terms of the points of view represented and the functions to be performed as outlined in its charter.

**McCollum Q23:** Please outline the qualifications of these members:

- Of the 16 members, how many are sport hunters?
- How many members have scientific expertise in conservation?
- How many members have direct experience with the management of successful conservation programs?
- How many members do not have any financial or commercial stake in international trophy hunting?

**Response:** Membership qualifications are outlined in the IWCC Charter. Specifically, IWCC members are senior-level representatives of their organizations and/or have the ability to represent their designated constituency group: wildlife and habitat conservation/management organizations; U.S. hunters actively engaged in international and/or domestic hunting conservation; the firearms or ammunition manufacturing industry; archery and/or hunting sports industry; and tourism, outfitter, and/or guide industries related to international hunting. ~~[no answer suggested]~~. Membership of the Council can be found at <https://www.facadatabase.gov/committee/members.aspx?cid=2636>

**McCollum Q24:** Do you see any conflict with having members from Safari Club International when they contributed funds to your campaign for Congress?

**Response:**

No, the Department of Interior considers the opinions of many stakeholders as well as the best scientific information in developing policy and regulations. ~~No.~~

**McCollum Q25:** In 2014, the Safari Club International and the National Rifle Association filed suit to challenge the Zimbabwe sport trophy-hunting ban despite statistics showing that in 2013 the Zimbabwe elephant population was 47,366 down from 84,416 in 2007? Does that give you any pause about their ability to objectively view facts and help make decisions? Are there any connections between these members and the Trump family?

**Response:** The Council was created and its members selected in order to advise the Secretary on a range of foreign wildlife and habitat conservation topics including developing recommendations to enhance anti-poaching and illegal wildlife trafficking programs. ~~[no answer suggested]~~

**McCollum Q26:** What is the status of lion trophy hunting imports from Zimbabwe and Zambia?

**Response:** On March 1, 2018, the Fish and Wildlife Service issued a memo in response to the D.C. Circuit Court's opinion in Safari Club Int'l, et al. v. Zinke, et al., No. 16-5358 (D.C. Cir., Dec. 22, 2017). In that memo, the Service withdrew, effective immediately, all country-wide findings, including those for lions in Zimbabwe and Zambia. These findings are no longer effective for making individual permit determinations for imports of sport-hunted lions. However, the Service intends to use the information cited in these findings and contained in its files as appropriate, in addition to the information it receives and has available when it receives each application, to evaluate individual permit applications. The Service intends to process permit applications on an individual basis, including making ESA enhancement determinations, and CITES non-detriment determinations when required, for each application. The Service intends to grant or deny permits to import a sport-hunted trophy on a case-by-case basis pursuant to its authorities under the ESA and CITES. As part of the permitting process, the Service

reviews each application received for import of such trophies and evaluates the information provided in the application as well as other information available to the Service as to the status of and management program for the species or population to ensure that the program is promoting the conservation of the species. Each application must also meet all other applicable permitting requirements before it may be authorized.

**McCollum Q27:** What current litigation exists on these rulings?

**Response:** In addition to the SCI/NRA litigation noted above, there are two other cases that relate to these rulings (*Center for Biological Diversity, et al. v. Zinke, et al.*, No. 17-2504 (D.D.C.) and *Friends of Animals, et al. v. Zinke, et al.*, No. 17-2530 (D.D.C.)). The first case challenges the 2017 enhancement findings for elephants and lions from Zimbabwe, and, through an amended complaint, while its 2nd Amended complaint proposes to also challenge the March 1, 2018, memo. The second case challenges the 2017 enhancement finding for elephants from Zimbabwe, while its 2nd Amended complaint proposes to also challenge the March 1, 2018, memo.

### **Solicitor's Opinion on Migratory Bird Treaty Act**

On December 22, 2017, the Principal Deputy Solicitor Exercising the Authority of the Solicitor Pursuant to Secretary's Order 3345, issued a memorandum stating the Migratory Bird Treaty Act does not prohibit incidental take. Shortly after this opinion was issued, seventeen former top Interior Department officials, both Republicans and Democrats, protested this "ill-conceived" new legal opinion that states the Migratory Bird Treaty Act protections only cover intentional acts.

**McCollum Q47:** What guidance have you given to the Fish and Wildlife Service on how to enforce this new legal opinion?

- Has instruction been given to the Fish and Wildlife Service about changing the Service manual?

**Response:** In February 2018, as a result of the new interpretation of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) removed the manual chapter relating to incidental take of migratory birds, "Incidental Take Prohibited Under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act" (720 FW3). On April 11, 2018, the Service issued general guidance to its Program and Regional Directors on implementation of the December 2017 Department of the Interior Solicitor's Office Opinion, M-37050. The guidance states that we will continue to fully implement the prohibitions on incidental take as defined under the Endangered Species Act and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act. It also states that we will continue to work with any partner who is interested in voluntarily reducing impacts to migratory birds and their habitats and provide recommendations for reducing these impacts through reviews under other authorities, such as NEPA and the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act. It directs that the Service will not withhold permits or requests or require mitigation based on incidental impacts under the MBTA. We will ensure any comments, recommendations or requirements we make are not based on –

and do not imply - authority under the MBTA to regulate incidental take. Further policy and instruction may follow, as appropriate.

**McCollum Q48:** What will you do in the event of another Deepwater Horizon spill? Would you consider that to be “intentional” take or “accidental” take?

- In the Deepwater Horizon spill 1 million migratory birds were injured or killed. If the Department will no longer seek compensation for spills like Deepwater Horizon, how will you mitigate for such devastating impacts on migratory birds?
- Why don't you feel this new legal opinion favors the oil industry over the protection of migratory birds?

**Response:** In practice, the new M-Opinion means that if an oil or hazardous chemical release occurs and is not done with the intent of taking migratory birds, the MBTA does not apply. Protections of publicly held natural resources, including migratory birds, under other authorities (such as the Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Act, Oil Pollution Act, and Clean Water Act) will still apply in these situations. Parties responsible for these incidents will still be held accountable under the incidental take prohibitions in the Endangered Species Act and Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act, as well as any applicable state laws. The M-Opinion applies to all industries equally, and the Department will continue to work with our industry partners to minimize impacts on migratory birds, whenever proponents or operators are willing to work with us toward this goal.

**McCollum Q49:** This legal opinion is contrary to the long-standing interpretation that has been in place since the 1970's.

- What standards have changed to justify reversing the long-standing interpretation?
- What analysis has been done on the impact of this opinion on bird populations?
- Why did the Department think the previous approach which enforced the Migratory Bird Treaty Act fairly in balancing the goals of economic progress with the impact of that progress on bird populations was not reasonable?

**Response:** U.S. courts are split on the question of whether or not the MBTA prohibits incidental take. The most recent Departmental review and analysis of case law, conducted by the [new DOI Principle Deputy Solicitor-Solicitor](#) and included in M-37050, describes the rationale used to determine that the MBTA does not prohibit incidental take.

**McCollum Q50:** On January 10, 2018, conservation professionals who all served in the Department of the Interior from 1971 to 2017, under Republican and Democratic administrations, wrote to Secretary Zinke to express concern about what they determined was “an ill-conceived opinion” and asked for its suspension.

- Why has the Department chosen to ignore this request to not prohibit the unregulated killing of birds?

**Response:** While ~~there is disagreement about~~ [some may disagree with M-37050, and how the MBTA was implemented and enforced in the past, among a number of those who implemented and enforced the MBTA in the past](#), the fact remains that U.S. courts are split on this question.

**McCollum Q51:** What incentive will industry now have to cover crude oil waste pits with nets to keep birds from landing in them if this opinion says there will be no action taken against them since they did not “intend” to kill birds?

**Response:** The Department will continue to offer technical expertise to willing industry and other partners to develop and/or apply best management practices to minimize the impacts of industrial and other human activities on migratory birds, and to comply with applicable state laws.

**From:** [Morris, Charisa](#)  
**To:** [Foster, Maureen](#); [Virginia Johnson](#)  
**Cc:** [Jim Kurth](#); [Casey Hammond](#); [Stephen Guertin](#)  
**Subject:** This week's deliverables: FWS Issues and revised map cover sheet  
**Date:** Friday, February 10, 2017 4:36:36 PM  
**Attachments:** [Office Summary.docx](#)  
[USFWS issues final.docx](#)

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Good afternoon-

Attached, please find our current FWS issues, as well as a revised map cover sheet, which now includes our wild and wonderful National Conservation Training Center.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Many thanks,  
Charisa

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[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

## US Fish & Wildlife Service Office Summary

Headquarters – Main Interior Building Washington DC; Skyline Complex, Falls Church, VA; Denver Finance Center, Denver, CO; Fort Collins IRTM, Fort Collins, CO; Patuxent Refuge Migratory Birds Program, Laurel, MD.

National Conservation Training Center – Shepherdstown, WV.

Regional Offices – Portland, OR; Albuquerque, NM; Bloomington, MN; Atlanta, GA; Hadley, MA; Denver CO; Anchorage, AK; Sacramento, CA.

Ecological Services Field Offices: 80 offices

Fisheries Offices – total offices 154; total acres 21.1 thousand.

Fish and Wildlife Conservation Offices: 65

Fish Hatcheries: 72, and 1 historic hatchery; 21.1 thousand acres.

Fish Technology Centers – 7

Fish Health Centers - 9

Refuges – total offices 609; total acres 855 million (including 107.8 million acres of monuments managed under other authorities)

National Wildlife Refuges: 565 refuges; 146.4 million acres

Wetland Management Districts: 38 WMDs; 3.7 million acres

National Monuments: 6; 704.9 million acres.

Law Enforcement - 18 Designated Ports; LE Forensics Lab Ashland, Oregon.

**U. S Fish and Wildlife Service Issues  
Submitted February 2017**

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**ESA Lion Findings** - The Service is likely to make one or more country-level findings regarding the African lion, which is listed under the ESA as Threatened. We are conducting these evaluations at the country level. We have already determined that South Africa's hunting program for wild lions meets our requirements, but that hunting of captive lions does not. Several other countries, including Tanzania, Zambia, and Mozambique, are currently under review.

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**From:** [Morris, Charisa](#)  
**To:** [Greg Sheehan](#); [Jim Kurth](#); [Stephen Guertin](#)  
**Cc:** [Zachariah Gambill](#); [Michael Gale](#); [Kashyap Patel](#)  
**Subject:** Timing of RINS - seeking DO approval  
**Date:** Thursday, November 9, 2017 5:53:16 PM

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Good afternoon-

At this point, I have the following to suggest to Greg as reasonable timelines, per the ADs:

1018-BC93 (Compatibility Regulations Pursuant to the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997): **03/00/2018**

1018-BC94 (Revising the Endangered Species Act Section 4(d) Rule for the African Elephant): **04/00/2018**

1018-BC95 (Revising the Endangered Species Act Section 4(d) Rule for the African Lion): **2/00/2017**

These timelines are based on staff work needed (revisions PLUS EAs if necessary) and surname deadlines. As a reminder, we need final dates to put into the system to fully process these RIN requests. Kashyap, please confirm DO-approved dates with Anissa Craighead.

Thanks!  
Charisa

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[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

**From:** [Guertin, Stephen](#)  
**To:** [Gloria Bell](#); [Hoover, Craig](#)  
**Subject:** two assignments for tomorrow Thursday  
**Date:** Wednesday, August 2, 2017 4:59:42 PM

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We will set up a meeting / conference call for tomorrow morning for two quick turn around assignments coming from the Deputy Secretary:

1. Lion trophy importation status

2. Nonresponsive Records 

Jim and I will attend to work through these issues

Thanks

Steve

**From:** [Guertin, Stephen](#)  
**To:** [Maureen Foster](#)  
**Subject:** update on two issues  
**Date:** Thursday, August 3, 2017 11:26:48 AM  
**Attachments:** [Inf memo lion and elephant hunting 8-3-17 final.docx](#)

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Nonresponsive Records



Regarding lion trophy imports, please see the attached updated BP.

Please let us know if you need additional information.

## INFORMATION/BRIEFING MEMORANDUM FOR THE DEPUTY SECRETARY

DATE: August 3, 2017

FROM: Greg Sheehan, Acting Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

SUBJECT: Lion and Elephant ESA listings and the permitting process

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide background on lion and elephant listings under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), the process for obtaining authorization under the ESA to import sport-hunted trophies, and the status of ESA findings for certain African countries.

### BACKGROUND

In December 2015, The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) listed the lion subspecies *Panthera leo leo*, located in India and west and central Africa, as endangered and listed *Panthera leo melanochaita*, located in eastern and southern Africa, as threatened. The Service also finalized a 4(d) rule for *Panthera leo melanochaita* that included the requirement that an import permit would need to be obtained prior to the import of any lion specimen.

The African elephant is listed as threatened (throughout its range) under the ESA and trade in African elephant specimens is regulated by a Section 4(d) rule of the Act (50 CFR 17.40(e)). On June 6, 2016, the Service published a final rule amending the Section 4(d) rule to, among other things, require the issuance of an ESA permit for all imports of African elephant trophies and ivory.

The Service's International Affairs Program (IA) is responsible for making the required findings for both species prior to issuing an import permit. IA issued a total of 10,700 permits in the first half of last year for all activities for which it has permit issuance responsibility. In the half of this year, IA has issued approximately 21,000 permits.

Secretary Zinke hosted a meeting with several sport-hunting stakeholder groups on July 11, where import of sport-hunted lions and elephants were discussed. As an outcome of that meeting, the Service is evaluating the recommendations of these groups and intends to hold follow-up discussions to determine how we can more effectively work together to ensure that hunting is contributing to conservation of these species.

### DISCUSSION

In accordance with Service regulations for the implementation of the ESA (50 CFR 17.33), in order to issue an import permit for a personally hunted lion trophy, the applicant must demonstrate that the import of a sport-hunted lion trophy would enhance the propagation or survival of the species in the wild. However, for most sport-hunted trophy imports, the hunter typically does not have access to all of the information the Service needs to make a positive "enhancement finding." To address this issue, the Service undertakes direct efforts to gather the

information necessary to determine whether an “enhancement finding” can be made. To do so, the Service contacts the wildlife authority within the country where the trophy was taken to obtain information on the status of the species within the country, the management program for the species and how sport hunting is integrated into that management plan, how funds generated through hunting contribute to the conservation of the species, how local communities benefit from hunting operations, and other relevant information. Likewise, sport-hunted trophies of African elephants may only be authorized if the Service is able to find that the killing of the trophy animal will enhance the survival of the species, as called for in the 4(d) rule (50 CFR 17.40(e)).

Historically, more than 90% of sport-hunted lion trophies (approximately 400 per year) have been imported to the United States from South Africa. Therefore, the Service prioritized making an enhancement determination for South Africa. In October 2016, we completed a positive enhancement finding for “wild” and “wild-managed” lions from South Africa and a negative finding for “captive” lions. To date, the Service has authorized the import of nine wild/wild-managed lion trophies from South Africa taken in 2016. We have also denied five applications for the importation of captive-bred lions taken in South Africa in 2016.

Although initial findings for lions have taken more time than anticipated, in part due to the lack of information from the countries involved, once these findings are in place and baseline information has been obtained, we expect that additional country-level findings will require far less time.

As of August 3, 2017, we have the following pending applications for lions:

Mozambique –	3 applications for lions taken in 2016 or 2017
Namibia –	1 application for lion to be taken in 2017
Tanzania –	17 applications for lions taken in 2016 or 2017
South Africa –	11 applications for wild/wild-managed or captive-bred lions taken in 2017
Zambia –	17 applications for lions taken in 2016 or 2017
Zimbabwe –	17 applications for lions taken in 2016 or 2017

As of August 3, 2017, we have the following pending applications for elephants:

Namibia –	8 applications for elephants taken in 2014 (2 renewals), 2016 and 2017
Tanzania –	2 applications for elephants taken in 2016
South Africa –	7 applications for elephants taken in 2016 and 2017
Zambia –	1 applications for elephants taken in 2017
Zimbabwe –	37 applications for elephants taken in 2014 (3), 2016 or 2017

With regard to sport-hunted elephants, we currently have positive findings for the import of trophies from South Africa and Namibia. In 2014 and 2015, we completed negative findings for Tanzania and Zimbabwe, countries for which we previously had positive findings. We have not authorized the import of sport-hunted elephant trophies for any other countries that currently allow sport hunting. We are currently under litigation for our negative findings for both Tanzania and Zimbabwe.

## **NEXT STEPS**

Status of lion and elephant enhancement findings:

Mozambique – The Service has received information from Mozambique for both elephants and lions, and we are currently reviewing the material regarding the status of lions within the country and the management program that is currently in place for the species. Draft findings are underway.

Namibia – The Service has a positive finding for elephants. The Service has requested information regarding lions from Namibia on several occasions, but has not received any information regarding status of the lions in the country or the management regime for the species. Namibia has promised to provide that information as soon as possible, and we will undertake a review of that information when it is received.

Tanzania – The Service has received information from Tanzania regarding the status of lions and elephants and their management programs. The material has been reviewed and we anticipate completing these findings by the end of August.

South Africa – The Service has a positive finding for elephants. Based on information received from South Africa and other sources, the Service made a positive finding for wild/wild-managed lions taken in 2016 and a negative finding for captive-bred lions taken in 2016. We are currently revising the finding for wild/wild-managed lions taken between 2017 and 2019 (South Africa's lion management plan for wild/wild-managed lions is valid until the end of 2019). We have received no new information for captive-bred lions that would change our current negative finding. The new finding will be completed this week and we will proceed to issue or deny applications immediately.

Zambia – The Service has received information from the Zambia Wildlife Authority on the status of lions in Zambia and their hunting programs for both lions and elephants. We have reviewed this information and have a draft finding that is currently being reviewed. We anticipate completing the finding by mid-August.

Zimbabwe – The Service has received and reviewed the information provided by Zimbabwe for both elephants and lions. We have completed a new elephant finding and are developing a communications plan and *Federal Register* notice to announce this finding in August. A draft finding for lions is underway.

## **ATTACHMENTS**

None

**From:** [Guertin, Stephen](#)  
**To:** [Greg Sheehan](#)  
**Cc:** [Jim Kurth](#); [Charisa Morris](#)  
**Subject:** Updated BP on lion trophies  
**Date:** Thursday, August 3, 2017 10:57:36 AM  
**Attachments:** [Inf memo lion and elephant hunting 8-3-17 final.docx](#)

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Greg

In addition to the update on the Feld Entertainment issue, the ASFWP requested an updated BP on the lion trophy issue, attached for you.

## INFORMATION/BRIEFING MEMORANDUM FOR THE DEPUTY SECRETARY

DATE: August 3, 2017

FROM: Greg Sheehan, Acting Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

SUBJECT: Lion and Elephant ESA listings and the permitting process

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide background on lion and elephant listings under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), the process for obtaining authorization under the ESA to import sport-hunted trophies, and the status of ESA findings for certain African countries.

### BACKGROUND

In December 2015, The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) listed the lion subspecies *Panthera leo leo*, located in India and west and central Africa, as endangered and listed *Panthera leo melanochaita*, located in eastern and southern Africa, as threatened. The Service also finalized a 4(d) rule for *Panthera leo melanochaita* that included the requirement that an import permit would need to be obtained prior to the import of any lion specimen.

The African elephant is listed as threatened (throughout its range) under the ESA and trade in African elephant specimens is regulated by a Section 4(d) rule of the Act (50 CFR 17.40(e)). On June 6, 2016, the Service published a final rule amending the Section 4(d) rule to, among other things, require the issuance of an ESA permit for all imports of African elephant trophies and ivory.

The Service's International Affairs Program (IA) is responsible for making the required findings for both species prior to issuing an import permit. IA issued a total of 10,700 permits in the first half of last year for all activities for which it has permit issuance responsibility. In the half of this year, IA has issued approximately 21,000 permits.

Secretary Zinke hosted a meeting with several sport-hunting stakeholder groups on July 11, where import of sport-hunted lions and elephants were discussed. As an outcome of that meeting, the Service is evaluating the recommendations of these groups and intends to hold follow-up discussions to determine how we can more effectively work together to ensure that hunting is contributing to conservation of these species.

### DISCUSSION

In accordance with Service regulations for the implementation of the ESA (50 CFR 17.33), in order to issue an import permit for a personally hunted lion trophy, the applicant must demonstrate that the import of a sport-hunted lion trophy would enhance the propagation or survival of the species in the wild. However, for most sport-hunted trophy imports, the hunter typically does not have access to all of the information the Service needs to make a positive "enhancement finding." To address this issue, the Service undertakes direct efforts to gather the

information necessary to determine whether an “enhancement finding” can be made. To do so, the Service contacts the wildlife authority within the country where the trophy was taken to obtain information on the status of the species within the country, the management program for the species and how sport hunting is integrated into that management plan, how funds generated through hunting contribute to the conservation of the species, how local communities benefit from hunting operations, and other relevant information. Likewise, sport-hunted trophies of African elephants may only be authorized if the Service is able to find that the killing of the trophy animal will enhance the survival of the species, as called for in the 4(d) rule (50 CFR 17.40(e)).

Historically, more than 90% of sport-hunted lion trophies (approximately 400 per year) have been imported to the United States from South Africa. Therefore, the Service prioritized making an enhancement determination for South Africa. In October 2016, we completed a positive enhancement finding for “wild” and “wild-managed” lions from South Africa and a negative finding for “captive” lions. To date, the Service has authorized the import of nine wild/wild-managed lion trophies from South Africa taken in 2016. We have also denied five applications for the importation of captive-bred lions taken in South Africa in 2016.

Although initial findings for lions have taken more time than anticipated, in part due to the lack of information from the countries involved, once these findings are in place and baseline information has been obtained, we expect that additional country-level findings will require far less time.

As of August 3, 2017, we have the following pending applications for lions:

Mozambique –	3 applications for lions taken in 2016 or 2017
Namibia –	1 application for lion to be taken in 2017
Tanzania –	17 applications for lions taken in 2016 or 2017
South Africa –	11 applications for wild/wild-managed or captive-bred lions taken in 2017
Zambia –	17 applications for lions taken in 2016 or 2017
Zimbabwe –	17 applications for lions taken in 2016 or 2017

As of August 3, 2017, we have the following pending applications for elephants:

Namibia –	8 applications for elephants taken in 2014 (2 renewals), 2016 and 2017
Tanzania –	2 applications for elephants taken in 2016
South Africa –	7 applications for elephants taken in 2016 and 2017
Zambia –	1 applications for elephants taken in 2017
Zimbabwe –	37 applications for elephants taken in 2014 (3), 2016 or 2017

With regard to sport-hunted elephants, we currently have positive findings for the import of trophies from South Africa and Namibia. In 2014 and 2015, we completed negative findings for Tanzania and Zimbabwe, countries for which we previously had positive findings. We have not authorized the import of sport-hunted elephant trophies for any other countries that currently allow sport hunting. We are currently under litigation for our negative findings for both Tanzania and Zimbabwe.

## **NEXT STEPS**

Status of lion and elephant enhancement findings:

Mozambique – The Service has received information from Mozambique for both elephants and lions, and we are currently reviewing the material regarding the status of lions within the country and the management program that is currently in place for the species. Draft findings are underway.

Namibia – The Service has a positive finding for elephants. The Service has requested information regarding lions from Namibia on several occasions, but has not received any information regarding status of the lions in the country or the management regime for the species. Namibia has promised to provide that information as soon as possible, and we will undertake a review of that information when it is received.

Tanzania – The Service has received information from Tanzania regarding the status of lions and elephants and their management programs. The material has been reviewed and we anticipate completing these findings by the end of August.

South Africa – The Service has a positive finding for elephants. Based on information received from South Africa and other sources, the Service made a positive finding for wild/wild-managed lions taken in 2016 and a negative finding for captive-bred lions taken in 2016. We are currently revising the finding for wild/wild-managed lions taken between 2017 and 2019 (South Africa's lion management plan for wild/wild-managed lions is valid until the end of 2019). We have received no new information for captive-bred lions that would change our current negative finding. The new finding will be completed this week and we will proceed to issue or deny applications immediately.

Zambia – The Service has received information from the Zambia Wildlife Authority on the status of lions in Zambia and their hunting programs for both lions and elephants. We have reviewed this information and have a draft finding that is currently being reviewed. We anticipate completing the finding by mid-August.

Zimbabwe – The Service has received and reviewed the information provided by Zimbabwe for both elephants and lions. We have completed a new elephant finding and are developing a communications plan and *Federal Register* notice to announce this finding in August. A draft finding for lions is underway.

## **ATTACHMENTS**

None

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**Subject:** Updated Invitation - BRIEFING (Greg Bryan Gloria and Tim Vannorman) on I on @ Thu Jun 29 2017 1pm - 1 30pm (stephen.guertin@fws.gov)  
**Attachments:** [inline.cs](#)

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BRIEFING (Greg, Bryan, Gloria and Tim Vannorman) on lion hunting trophies - Rm 33 8

On Wed, Jun 21, 2017 at 2:50 PM, Hoover, Craig wrote:

Dear Roslyn and Thomas,

Greg Sheehan asked me to reach out to set up a briefing on lion hunting trophies. Next week would be best. Perhaps some time Monday, Wednesday or Thursday afternoon? It would include those I have on this email.

Thanks for your help.

--  
Craig Hoover

When Changed: Thu Jun 29, 2017 1pm - 1:30pm Eastern Time

Video call [https://plus.google.com/hangouts/\\_/doi.gov/gregory-sheehan?ceid=Z3JlZ29yeV9zaGVlaGFuQGZ3cy5ub3Yldvednh7169tmri848c3c43hfb](https://plus.google.com/hangouts/_/doi.gov/gregory-sheehan?ceid=Z3JlZ29yeV9zaGVlaGFuQGZ3cy5ub3Yldvednh7169tmri848c3c43hfb)

Calendar stephen\_guertin@fws.gov

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• [thomas\\_irwin@fws.gov](mailto:thomas_irwin@fws.gov) - creator

• [tim\\_vannorman@fws.gov](mailto:tim_vannorman@fws.gov)

• [craig\\_hoover@fws.gov](mailto:craig_hoover@fws.gov)

• [bryan\\_arroyo@fws.gov](mailto:bryan_arroyo@fws.gov)

• [stephen\\_guertin@fws.gov](mailto:stephen_guertin@fws.gov)

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BRIEFING (Greg, Bryan, Gloria and Tim Vannorman) on lion hunting trophies - Rm 3358

On Wed, Jun 21, 2017 at 2:50 PM, Hoover, Craig wrote:

Dear Roslyn and Thomas,

Greg Sheehan asked me to reach out to set up a briefing on lion hunting trophies. Next week would be best. Perhaps some time Monday, Wednesday or Thursday afternoon? It would include those I have on this email.

Thanks for your help.

-  
Craig Hoover

When Changed: Thu Jun 29, 2017 1pm - 1:30pm Eastern Time

Video call [https://plus.google.com/hangouts/\\_/doi.gov/gregory-sheehan?ceid=Z3JlZ29yeV9zaGVlaGFuQGZ3cy5hb3Y3ZWRjMmE2MDM0NDUwNjA0Y2RkZDBmNWFjMDe0ZmY3OGZlNzFmODgw&ctz=America/New\\_York&hl=en](https://plus.google.com/hangouts/_/doi.gov/gregory-sheehan?ceid=Z3JlZ29yeV9zaGVlaGFuQGZ3cy5hb3Y3ZWRjMmE2MDM0NDUwNjA0Y2RkZDBmNWFjMDe0ZmY3OGZlNzFmODgw&ctz=America/New_York&hl=en)

Calendar [gloria\\_bell@fws.gov](mailto:gloria_bell@fws.gov)

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• [gloria\\_bell@fws.gov](mailto:gloria_bell@fws.gov)

• [bryan\\_arroyo@fws.gov](mailto:bryan_arroyo@fws.gov)

• [tim\\_vannorman@fws.gov](mailto:tim_vannorman@fws.gov)

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**From:** [Gale, Michael](#)  
**To:** [Foster, Maureen](#)  
**Cc:** [Greg Sheehan](#); [Jim Kurth](#); [Stephen Guertin](#); [Charisa Morris](#)  
**Subject:** USFWS Report on S.O. 3356  
**Date:** Wednesday, October 11, 2017 1:46:47 PM  
**Attachments:** [Sportsmans Outreach Activities List - Fall 2017 v4.docx](#)  
[SO 3347 EO 13443 Actions FWS Only.docx](#)  
[FWS WeeklyReport.10.6.17.docx](#)  
[FWS.Draft.ResponseStrategy.pdf](#)

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Maureen,

Attached is a suite of briefing information for FWP regarding USFWS implementation of S.O. 3356, including:

- Draft Response Strategy - outlines action items in S.O. 3356 (we are working on a more detailed spreadsheet of actions and milestones)
- Weekly Report on S.O. 3356 10.06.17 (we will provide these weekly to you as our work progresses)
- Summary of FWS Actions for S.O. 3347 (as a reference)
- Updated Calendar of Autumn of Sportsmen Outreach Activities

We had meant to provide hard copies at the FWP check-in, but I forgot to bring them. Please accept my apologies.

We'll continue to provide weekly updates, and we'll work up a similar process / progress report on S.O. 3355 (re: NEPA) prior to our check-in next week.

Please let us know if you have any questions or need any additional information.

Cheers,

Michael

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Michael Gale

Deputy Chief of Staff (Acting), Director's Office  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

202.208.4923 (office)  
571.982.2158 (cell)

## Sportsman's Outreach Efforts - Fall 2017

DATE	TITLE	DESCRIPTION	DOI OFFICIAL
TBD	"Restoring the Refuges" Initiative Announced	Service initiative to increase funding for National Wildlife Refuges	Video produced FWS. On hold for Budget.
8/2/17	Sportsman's Access Ramp Up Summit	Over 50 organizations for hunting, fishing, and shooting sports gathered at Main Interior.	Ryan Zinke, David Bernhardt, Todd Willens, Greg Sheehan
8/9/17	Hunting and Fishing Expanded at 10 National Wildlife Refuges	Announced proposal to expand hunting and fishing at 10 national wildlife refuges; bringing it up to 373 open to hunting and 312 to fishing.	FWS News Release
8/10/17	Sabinoso Wilderness Open to Hunting, etc. (New Mexico)	Process finalized for accepting land donation for Sabinoso Wilderness; includes access for hunting, etc.	DOI News Release
8/30/17	Wildlife and Hunting Heritage Conservation Council (WHHCC) rebooted	Teleconference to discuss implementing S.O. 3347, to increase outdoor recreation opportunities.	Jim Kurth (FWS)
8/31/17	International Importation Approvals (South African Lion)	Approval of the import of lion trophies taken in South Africa during permitted hunts.	International Affairs program
8/31/17	Blog on South African Lion decision	Open Spaces blog explaining South African Lion decision	HQ External Affairs posting
8/30/17	National Shooting Sports Month	Secretarial Proclamation enhancing recognition of shooting sports.	DOI, FWS
8/31/17	Opening Day Dove Hunt Social Media Messages	Posted August 31 Twitter message on opening of dove season and hunting seasons generally across U.S.	FWS HQ EA, HQ Migratory Bird Program
9/1/17	Everything You Need to Know About Hunting on Public Lands	Posted online information and resources about hunting opportunities on public lands.	DOI News Release
9/7/2017	National Hunting and Fishing Preliminary Survey Results Released	Announced preliminary findings of the 2016 National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, and Wildlife-Associated Recreation.	DOI News Release
9/7/17	Announcement of NAWCA Grants by MBCC	Announced award of grants that support wetlands conservation and public lands access.	DOI News Release

9/11/17	Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies (AFWA) Conference Keynote	Sheehan and Bernhardt delivered remarks at the plenary session.	Greg Sheehan & David Bernhardt
9/15/17	Launch of "Autumn of Hunting" communications campaign	Implement approximately 6 week communications campaign focused on hunting	FWS HQ EA, programs and regions
9/16/17	Duck Stamp Ceremony - University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point	Announce the winner of the 2017 Migratory Bird and Hunting Conservation Stamp art contest.	HQ Migratory Bird Program, FWS HQ EA
9/18/17	Secretarial Order to support and enhance hunting and fishing	Announcement that DOI bureaus will be submitting plans to increase hunting and fishing access and opportunities.	DOI News Release
9/18/17	Fish & Wildlife Service News	Summer issue of <i>Fish &amp; Wildlife Service News</i> released highlight outdoor recreation.	<i>Fish &amp; Wildlife Service News</i>
9/20/17	Wonders of Wildlife Museum – Springfield Event	Attend the opening ceremony for the Wonders of Wildlife Museum.	Secretary & Greg Sheehan
9/21/17	National Hunting and Fishing Month	Secretary Proclamation for October to recognize impacts of hunters/anglers.	DOI News Release and Congressional outreach
9/23/17	National Public Lands Day	Blog post encouraging volunteering and recreation public lands.	FWS HQ EA, programs, and regions
10/3/17	Private Lands Partners Day (Bangor, Maine)	Gathering of private landowners with Partners in Conservation.	Greg Sheehan spoke at the event
10/9/17	National Wildlife Refuge Week	Series of outreach events, including hunting/fishing events, and Congressional resolutions.	Cynthia Martinez, National Wildlife Refuge System, FWS HQ EA
October	Hunting and Fishing Expanded at 10 National Wildlife Refuges	Announcement of final rule to expand hunting and fishing at 10 national wildlife refuges.	Cynthia Martinez, National Wildlife Refuge System, FWS HQ EA
10/4/17	National Assembly of Sportsmen's Causes	Presentation on WSFR license certification	CLA
10/28/17	Celebrating Veterans and Sportsmen	Special event with the Secretary to highlight sportsmen and veterans.	Greg Sheehan

## **S.O. 3347 E.O. 13443 Actions, Barriers, and Recommendations – USFWS**

**E.O. Sec. 2(a) - Evaluate the effect of agency actions on trends in hunting participation and, where appropriate to address declining trends, implement actions that expand and enhance hunting opportunities for the public;**

### **Actions taken - S.O. Sec. 4.a.(1)a.**

- Hunting is a priority public use on national wildlife refuges, which means the Service prioritizes hunting opportunities in refuge planning and management. Over time, this focus has resulted in steady rates of participation in hunting and fishing on refuges despite declines in participation nationally. Agency actions to improve access and quality have included opening new areas to hunting, participating in efforts to recruit new users, and improving recreation infrastructure.
- Since 2006, the number of total hunting visits increased by 6%, with waterfowl hunts increasing 13% and other migratory bird hunts increasing 38%. Since 2005, there has been a 21% increase in reports of good quality hunting opportunities on national wildlife refuges.
- This steady growth has been during a time of decreased hunting and fishing participation more broadly (proportionally to the population); however, overall hunting visits have decreased by 3% in the past five years.
- Waterfowl hunt visits (+7%) and other migratory bird hunt visits (+12%) did increase in that same period of time.
- Working with the Flyway Councils on the revision of Adaptive Harvest Management protocols, examining harvest management objectives and regulatory packages (season length, bag limits) with respect to Flyway and hunter desires.
- In 2012 Revised the North American Waterfowl Management Plan (NAWMP) to include objective of improving numbers of hunters and other bird conservationists
- 2014 - 2017: Working with Human Dimensions and Recruitment/Retention/Reactivation (R3) groups to better understand motivations and desires of hunters to increase their satisfaction and attempt to recruit new hunters
- Developed new dove harvest strategy that expanded hunting opportunities
- In Alaska the Service participates in the biannual meetings of the Alaska Migratory Bird Co-Management Council reporting on the status of migratory birds used by subsistence hunters in Alaska. The Service addresses concerns, issues, questions brought forward to ensure hunting opportunities for Alaska migratory bird subsistence hunters may continue.
- The Service is engaged with the Wildlife and Hunting Heritage Conservation Council. We are working cooperatively to identify Wildlife Restoration Act eligible hunter recruitment, retention and reactivation activities.

### **Barriers to implement - S.O. Sec. 4.a.(1)b.**

- Fewer staff and curtailed hours at many refuges may be contributing to more recent declines in the number of hunting and fishing visits.

## **S.O. 3347 E.O. 13443 Actions, Barriers, and Recommendations – USFWS**

- Declines in the maintenance infrastructure funding also impacts our ability to maintain quality road and boating access.
- There are also technology barriers and data management challenges to support broader application and maintenance of digital media to engaging hunters and anglers.
- Insufficient staff resources to complete Adaptive Harvest Management Protocols as quickly as State partners would like.
- Insufficient resources to survey hunters to fully integrate human dimensions into the regulatory process

### **Recommendations - S.O. Sec. 4.a.(1)c.**

- Continue implementation of the Service's "Strategy to Increase Quality Hunting and Fishing on National Wildlife Refuges" that evaluates trends and outlines a number of actions that address ways to increase quality hunting and fishing opportunities on national wildlife refuges including welcoming signage program, and outdoor skills and mentoring programs and activities.
- Work through the Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies (AFWA) to develop and deliver training courses for managing high quality hunting and fishing programs.
- Continue to introduce new users near high population areas to hunting through introductory events and programs.
- Continue to work on the Adaptive Harvest Management (AHM) protocols with available staff and work with the Flyway Councils on emerging harvest management issues and complete the AHM revision process.
- Continue to work with the North American Waterfowl Management Plan (NAWMP) Human Dimensions working group to advance the goals of the 2012 revision of NAWMP.

### **E.O. Sec. 2(b) - Consider the economic and recreational values of hunting in agency actions, as appropriate;**

#### **Actions taken - S.O. Sec. 4.a.(1)a.**

- The Service regularly incorporates outdoor recreation interests and values through refuge conservation planning efforts, delivery of visitor services, and partnerships as well as considers the social and economic impacts of management actions in refuges.
- The Service also aims to periodically measure this return on investment. The agency's report, "Banking on Nature" showed that refuges in 2013 pumped \$2.4 billion into the economy and supported more than 35,000 jobs.
- More than 47 million people visit refuges every year with approximately 9.3 million of those being to hunt or fish.
- Additionally in 2015, the Service began using the Targeted Resource Acquisition Comparison Tool (TRACT) to inform land acquisition budget decisions, which

## **S.O. 3347 E.O. 13443 Actions, Barriers, and Recommendations – USFWS**

incorporates waterfowl hunter harvest data to identify areas of demand for public waterfowl hunting.

- Duck harvest management objectives are set to maximize harvest (opportunity) while ensuring the long term sustainability of duck populations. Current mid-continent mallard strategy is combination of 4 objectives: 1) maximize harvest, 2) keep mallards around indefinitely, 3) achieve the North American Waterfowl Management Plan population goal of 8.8 million mallards, and 4) provide the opportunity to hunt any time the mallards population size is greater than 5.5 million (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 2016a).
- 2015 - 2017 Developed a Rule on Alaska handicrafts allowing the sale of the non-edible parts for migratory game birds used in handicrafts by Alaska natives.
- Annually the Service provides funding to the Alaska Department of Fish and Game to conduct migratory bird subsistence harvest surveys to determine the economic, cultural and traditional importance of hunting migratory birds in Alaska during spring and summer.
- Implemented the International Black Duck Adaptive Harvest Management Strategy with Canada (2013). The goals of this strategy are to maintain the black duck population indefinitely, provide consumptive use, and maintain the societal values associated with the hunting tradition (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 2016b). Implementation of the harvest strategy resulted in the first liberalization of U.S. black duck hunting regulations since 1983.
- The National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, and Wildlife-Associated Recreation is a partnership effort with the States and national conservation organizations. The Survey is conducted every 5 years. The Service coordinates the Survey, and the U.S. Census Bureau collects the data by computer-assisted interviews. It is a useful tool that quantifies the economic impact of wildlife-based recreation. Federal, State, and private organizations use this detailed information to manage wildlife, market products, and look for trends. Funding for the survey comes from by grants from the Multistate Conservation Grant Program and State Wildlife Grant Program administrative funds.

### **Barriers to implement - S.O. Sec. 4.a.(1)b.**

- None.

### **Recommendations - S.O. Sec. 4.a.(1)c.**

- Implement new policy on the Migratory Bird Conservation Fund (MBCF) Procedures (341 FW 4) will require Service managers to consider a potential land acquisition's contribution to North American Waterfowl Management Plan goals before requesting MBCF funding for the acquisition.

## **S.O. 3347 E.O. 13443 Actions, Barriers, and Recommendations – USFWS**

### **E.O. Sec. 2(c) - Manage wildlife and wildlife habitats on public lands in a manner that expands and enhances hunting opportunities, including through the use of hunting in wildlife management planning;**

- Since 2005, 21 more units of the National Wildlife Refuge System are open to hunting for a total of 373 units and 86.4 million acres.
- Since 2012 (data was not collected prior) 41 more units of the National Wildlife Refuge System are open to fishing for a total of 276 units.
- Since 2005, the Service has increased the number of refuges offering a good quality hunting experiences by 21% and good quality fishing experience by 25%.
- Hunting continues to be an integral management tool to remove feral, invasive, and harmful wildlife species, as well as maintain healthy sustainable native wildlife populations. For example, in 2013 bow hunters harvested 26 feral hogs and 129 deer in three days of hunting at Blackbeard Island National Wildlife Refuge in Georgia.
- As a result of the Service's vision for the refuge system, in March 2014, the Service published a "Strategy to Increase Quality Hunting and Fishing on National Wildlife Refuges." The strategy outlines thirteen action items from training to increased coordination with states to welcoming and orienting new and existing users.
- Duck harvest management objectives set to maximize harvest (opportunity) while ensuring the long term sustainability of duck populations.
- 2011 - 2016: Authorized states to have an additional split or zone in their duck seasons which allows greater flexibility time the seasons when ducks are present. This action allows for greater opportunity to harvest ducks and increases hunter satisfaction.
- 2013 - 2016: Expanded early teal hunting opportunities by offering additional states September teal seasons, increasing the daily bag from 4 to 6 during the September teal seasons, or allowing 2 additional teal in the bag during part of the regular duck season.
- 2013 - 2016: Increased migratory game bird field possession limits from 2 to 3 times the daily bag limit.
- 2011 - 2016: Provided new hunting opportunities on sandhill cranes where it didn't exist previously (Eastern Population)
- 2017: Completed a proposed rule to allow hunting of Emperor geese
- Greatly expanded hunting opportunities for Canada and light geese
- 2017: Proposed increase in the number of permits to take tundra swans
- Developed new mourning dove harvest strategy that expanded hunting opportunities (increase in season length and bag limits)
- Approved new non-toxic shot types for the hunting of waterfowl
- Provided \$5.2 billion in funding to state fish and wildlife agencies from the Wildlife Restoration Act since FY08. State fish and wildlife agencies annually manage on average 26 million acres of state wildlife management areas and acquire on average 2 million acres per year. In addition, the funds are used by states for wildlife research and educational programs that support hunting safety and skills development.

## **S.O. 3347 E.O. 13443 Actions, Barriers, and Recommendations – USFWS**

**E.O. Sec. 2(d) - Work collaboratively with State governments to manage and conserve game species and their habitats in a manner that respects private property rights and State management authority over wildlife resources;**

### **Actions taken - S.O. Sec. 4.a.(1)a.**

- In 2008, the Service enacted policy directing hunting and fishing programs on refuges to be managed in coordination and cooperation with state fish and wildlife agencies (601 FW7 – Coordination and Cooperative Work with State Fish and Wildlife Agencies and 43 CFR-24 State/Federal Relationships).
- Across Service, managers work closely and regularly with their state counterparts at all levels from planning to seasonal law enforcement efforts.
- In 2011, the Service released a 10-year vision for the National Wildlife Refuge System, entitled "Conserving the Future." With Recommendation #17 that prioritized working closely with state fish and wildlife agencies to conduct a review of its current hunting and fishing opportunities."
- The Service Alaska Region together with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game and representatives from 10 Alaska Native representatives meet twice a year to evaluate migratory bird subsistence proposals, compare information on distribution, status and trends of waterfowl, and evaluate harvest and populations of birds.
- The Service provides \$230,000 in annual funding to the Alaska Department of Fish and Game to implement an annual migratory bird subsistence harvest survey as required by the amendment of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act.
- The Service and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADFG) work side by side to develop appropriate management plans for waterfowl in the Pacific Flyway. In 2016, the Service and ADFG cooperated and collaborated to write the 2016 Pacific Flyway Council Management Plan for Emperor Geese

### **Barriers to implement - S.O. Sec. 4.a.(1)b.**

- Good working relationships with state partners requires an investment of time and energy. This can be challenging given diminishing capacity.

### **Recommendations - S.O. Sec. 4.a.(1)c.**

- Continue implementation of the Service's strategic vision for the National Wildlife Refuge System, entitled "Conserving the Future." Specifically, Recommendation #17 entitled "The Service will work closely with state fish and wildlife agencies to conduct a review of its current hunting and fishing opportunities."
- Incorporate state coordination requirements into Service training related to hunting.

**E.O. Sec. 2(e) - Establish short and long term goals, in cooperation with State and tribal governments, and consistent with agency missions, to foster healthy and productive**

## **S.O. 3347 E.O. 13443 Actions, Barriers, and Recommendations – USFWS**

**populations of game species and appropriate opportunities for the public to hunt those species;**

### **Actions taken - S.O. Sec. 4.a.(1)a.**

- Short term goals are established through Refuge System Annual Hunt Fish Rule development. Long term goals are established during planning efforts such as Refuge System Comprehensive Conservation Plans and Service wide geographic collaborative networks which engage with states, tribes and other stakeholders, including industry.
- Established migratory game bird population objectives in our Adaptive Harvest Management protocols and other harvest strategies to help provide maximum opportunity while ensuring the long-term sustainability of migratory game bird populations.
- The Service annually works through the Migratory Bird Joint Ventures (collaborative, regional partnerships of government agencies, non-profit organizations, corporations, tribes, and individuals) to conserve habitat for the benefit of priority bird species, other wildlife, and people.
- Publication of a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement in 2013 regarding the issuance of annual regulations permitting the hunting of migratory birds
- With funding from the Service's State Wildlife Grant (SWG) Program, state-Federal partners in the Northeast have successfully averted Federal listing of the New England Cottontail Rabbit, a Candidate for ESA listing since 2006. In 2015, due to this state-Federal collaboration, the species was removed from Candidate status. Through "proactive" conservation, a new listing was avoided and associated costs to private landowners and others averted.

### **Barriers to implement - S.O. Sec. 4.a.(1)b.**

- None.

### **Recommendations - S.O. Sec. 4.a.(1)c.**

- The Refuge System will continue to coordinate with the states to align and simplify refuge hunting and fishing regulations, where compatible with state seasons.

**E.O. Sec. 2(f) - Ensure that agency plans and actions consider programs and recommendations of comprehensive planning efforts such as State Wildlife Action Plans, the North American Waterfowl Management Plan, and other range-wide management plans for big game and upland game birds;**

### **Actions taken - S.O. Sec. 4.a.(1)a.**

- The Service's Strategic Growth Policy for the National Wildlife Refuge System (602 FW 5) identifies achieving North American Waterfowl Management Plan population objectives as one of three Service's priorities for the growth of the Refuge System.

## **S.O. 3347 E.O. 13443 Actions, Barriers, and Recommendations – USFWS**

- Working with the Flyway Councils on the revision of Adaptive Harvest Management protocols, examining harvest management objectives and regulatory packages (season length, bag limits) with respect to Flyway and hunter desires.
- Migratory Bird Program has consulted and provided data on waterfowl populations to assess National Wildlife Refuge System acquisitions to benefit priority waterfowl species defined in the North American Waterfowl Management Plan. These species are assigned priority based on their importance in the North American waterfowl harvest and their population trend.
- The 21 Migratory Bird Joint Ventures (JVs) incorporate the goals, objectives, and recommendations of the North American Waterfowl Management Plan, Partners in Flight Landbird Conservation Plan, U.S. Shorebird Conservation Plan, North American Waterbird Conservation Plan, and State Wildlife Action Plans. The Service Migratory Bird Program provides leadership and support to conduct activities in support of these bird conservation goals and for priority landscapes.
- Through funding provided by the State Wildlife Grant (SWG) Program the Service provides the framework and capacity for state fish and wildlife agency to develop, plan and execute State Wildlife Action Plans (SWAPs).

### **Barriers to implement - S.O. Sec. 4.a.(1)b.**

- None.

### **Recommendations - S.O. Sec. 4.a.(1)c.**

- None.

**E.O. Sec. 2(g) - Seek the advice of State and tribal fish and wildlife agencies, and, as appropriate, consult with the Sporting Conservation Council and other organizations, with respect to the foregoing Federal activities.**

### **Actions taken - S.O. Sec. 4.a.(1)a.**

- The Service continues its commitment to working with the States to implement hunting and fishing programs as well as to work cooperatively with Wildlife and Hunting Heritage Conservation Council.
- The Service promulgates the annual Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations in consultation/partnership with the states through their involvement in the four Flyway Councils. For over 70 years, the Service has worked collaboratively with the Flyway Councils to evaluate proposals regarding available species, season lengths, bag limits, and other factors related to sport hunting of migratory birds.
- The Service promulgates the annual AK Subsistence Harvest Regulations in consultation with the Alaska Migratory Bird Co-management Council (AMBCC) which consists of the Service, Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game and representatives of Alaska's native

## **S.O. 3347 E.O. 13443 Actions, Barriers, and Recommendations – USFWS**

population. The primary purpose of the AMBCC is to conserve migratory birds through development of regulations for the subsistence bird harvest in Alaska.

- Establishment of a sport and subsistence harvest season on Emperor Geese in Alaska in consultation with the Alaska Migratory Bird Co-management Council.
- Annually consult with approximately 30 Tribes to establish special tribal hunting regulations for migratory game birds (includes species open to hunting, season length, bag limits, hunting methods and areas open to hunting),
- The Service regularly works with the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, the Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, the Wildlife Management Institute and others on migratory bird hunting issues.
- The Service Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration program (WSFR) regularly coordinates with the Service's liaison to the Hunting Heritage Council to offer information for Council meetings. WSFR works closely with State fish and wildlife agencies in discussing and recommending policy changes for the WSFR program through the State-Federal Joint Task Force on Federal Assistance Policy which meets at least twice annually.

### **Barriers to implement - S.O. Sec. 4.a.(1)b.**

- None.

### **Recommendations - S.O. Sec. 4.a.(1)c.**

- The Refuge System supports the Service's liaison to the Wildlife Hunting and Heritage Conservation Council (WHHCC) and will continue to use that forum as one of many ways to seek advice on future Federal activities.

### **S.O Sec. 4(a)(2) - Report to the Secretary within 30 calendar days with specific recommendations to enhance recreational fishing, specifically regarding efforts to enhance and expand recreational fishing access.**

#### **Actions taken - S.O. Sec. 4.a.(1)a.**

- None.

### **Barriers to implement - S.O. Sec. 4.a.(1)b.**

- None.

### **Recommendations - S.O. Sec. 4.a.(1)c.**

- Modernization of National Fish Hatchery facilities to enhance fish rearing capacity
- Maintain healthy fisheries by limiting the introduction, establishment and spread of harmful invasive species.

## **S.O. 3347 E.O. 13443 Actions, Barriers, and Recommendations – USFWS**

- Enhance fish habitat by removing fish passage barriers through the National Fish Passage Program.
- Support and enhance the Urban Refuge Initiative that will provide opportunities for urban youth and their families to experience fishing for the first time.
- Continue support for providing additional fishing access on National Wildlife Refuge System properties.
- Participate in the Recreational Boating & Fishing Foundation’s “60 in 60” initiative to achieve 60 million U.S. anglers in the next 60 months (by 2021), which could contribute to a more than \$500 million increase in fishing license revenue over the next five years, a \$35 billion annual increase in economic contributions from anglers and a \$10 billion annual increase in economic contributions from boaters.
- Participate in RBFF’s pilot “First Catch Center” program to establish learning centers across the country that combine hands on activities with traditional lessons in fishing and boating skills and conservation.
- Expand outreach and communication initiatives that incorporate high quality messaging to increase fishing participation.

# FWS S.O. 3356 Weekly Report: 10/6/17

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- Developing Response Strategy Table to include specific S.O. 3356 directives, Recommendations of S.O. 3347. Details will include specific action items and accomplishments that will be reported out on weekly basis to leadership.
- Response to permitting recommendations for guides and outfitters (Sec 4.b.5, due 10/15/17) is in DTS (DCN 066714). Currently in leadership review.
- In response to Sec. 4.a.(1)c, the Service's Migratory Bird Program have taken the following actions on recommendations.
  - Working with the Flyway Councils and the Canadian Wildlife Service, implementation of the international Adaptive Harvest Management protocol for black ducks has resulted in an additional bird in the daily bag for the 2017 hunting season increasing the daily limit from 1 to 2 birds for the first time since 1983
  - Working with the North American Waterfowl Management Plan Human Dimensions Work Group and Flyway Councils, nation-wide stakeholder surveys of waterfowl hunters, viewers, and the general public were conducted in the summer of 2017. Analyses are currently underway to summarize the survey results to inform implementation of the 2012 North American Waterfowl Management Plan and 2018 Update.
- Service solidifies commitment to "60 in 60" Initiative and Announcement Pending- The Service Director has signed the MOU committing the Service to the Recreational Boating and Fishing "60 in 60" initiative to increase fishing participation nationwide. The MOU will be announced jointly by the signatory agencies in the near future. Other signatory agencies include the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, American Sportfishing Association, National Marine Manufacturers Association, Recreational Boating and Fishing Foundation, as well as the Bureau of Land Management and the Forest Service.
- Service to release the Notice of Funding Opportunity for the National Outreach and Communication Program - The Service will soon post a Notice of Funding Opportunity for a five year cooperative agreement for the National Outreach and Communication Program for sport fishing and boating. This funding provides approximately \$12 million annually for efforts to increase fishing and boating participation nationwide. The Recreational Boating and Fishing Foundation has been the recipient of previous funding opportunities.

- Senior staff from the Fish and Aquatic Conservation (FAC) and External Affairs programs met last week in Denver to develop a comprehensive communications plan. The communications plan will promote participation in fishing and boating and educate the public about the essential role the FAC program plays in sustaining recreational fisheries nationwide.
- The Service is finalizing Director's Memo directing regions to nominate a Regional Hunting & Fishing Chief

Reference	Section 4 Directive #	Directive Language * some have been split to show multiple actions	Deadline	Due to Dept
		<b>a. SO 3347</b>		
SO 3356	a.1	Implement the specific recommendation to SO3347 to enhance recreational fishing (spc efforts to enhance/expand rec fishing access)	N/A	
SO 3356	a.2	Provide detailed implementation plan for FWS to implement other recommendations to SO 3347	120 days	1/15/2018
		<b>b. Dept Land &amp; Waters</b>		
SO 3356	b.1	Amend National Monument Management Plans to include or expand hunting, recreational shooting, fishing opportunities	N/A	
SO 3356	b.2	Identify lands and waters where access to Dept lands & waters, particularly access for hunting, fishing, rec shooting, and outdoor recreation, is limited...but where there is opportunity to gain access through voluntary easements, ROW, acquisitions. Provide report to Deputy Secretary detailing such lands and waters	60 days	11/15/2017
SO 3356	b.3	Online "One Stop" Departmental site database of available opportunities for hunting, fishing, recreational shooting on Dept Land Waters (cooperate, coordinate, create, make available, update)	365 Days	9/15/2018
SO 3356	b.4	Identify whether hunting, fishing, and/or recreational shooting opportunities on Depart lands can be expanded and provide recommendations to Deputy Sec on where expansions may occur	60 days	11/15/2017
SO 3356	b.5	Examine & provide recommendations to Deputy Secretary on how to streamline/improve permitting process for guides & outfitters on Dept Lands &	30 days	10/15/2017
SO 3356	b.6	Incorporate analysis of the impacts of Federal Land and water management actions on hunting, fishing, recreational shooting access in planning and decision making	N/A	
		<b>c. Hunting/Fishing/Rec Shooting Participation</b>		
SO 3356	c.1	Identify opportunities to help provide voluntary public access to private lands & waters for hunting and fishing	N/A	
SO 3356	c.2	Identify grant and/or cooperative agreement opportunities that may be made available for community programs for hunting, fishing, rec shooting participation re: recruitment, retention, reactivation	60 days	11/15/2017

SO 3356	c.3	Work with veterans and youth programs to provide hunting, fishing, and rec shooting mentor training programs	N/A	
		<b>d. Working w/ state, tribal, local partners</b>		
SO 3356	d.1	Identify full-time employees who are responsible for access to hunting, fishing, rec shooting and other outdoor rec opportunities on Dept lands and waters and work in close collaboration w/ state and local partners on efforts	N/A	
SO 3356	d.2	Coordinate w/ state, tribal, territorial wildlife management agencies to identify opportunities for increased access to Dept lands & waters, including identifying opportunities for access through adjacent private lands	N/A	
SO 3356	d.3*	Collaborate w/ State, tribal, territorial fish & wildlife agencies to attain/sustain wildlife population goals during Dept land management planning and implementation	N/A	
SO 3356	d.3*	Prioritizing active habitat management projects and funding that contribute to achieving wildlife populations objectives, particularly for game species	N/A	
SO 3356	d.3*	Identifying additional ways to include or delegate to states habitat management work on Federal Lands	N/A	
SO 3356	d.4	Work cooperatively w/ state, tribal, and territorial wildlife agencies to enhance their access to Dept lands for wildlife management actions	N/A	
SO 3356	d.5	Develop proposed Categorical exclusion for proposed projects that utilize common practices solely intended to enhance/restore habitat for species such as sage-grouse and/or mule deer	180 days	3/15/2018
		<b>d.6. Waterfowl</b>		
SO 3356	d.6	Significantly increase migratory waterfowl populations and hunting by	N/A	
SO 3356	d.6.a	Enhancing and improving use of voluntary perpetual grassland and wetland conservation easements	N/A	
SO 3356	d.6.b	Expanding habitat and water conservation/protection efforts on wintering habitats	N/A	
SO 3356	d.6.c	Assessing and utilizing sound science to direct the development of proposed project and/or policy proposals to enhance waterfowl production	N/A	
SO 3356	d.6.d	Identify partnerships and resources opportunities	N/A	

SO 3356	d.6.e	Utilize sound scientific evidence in conjunction with landowner/stakeholder input	N/A	
		<b>d.7 to d.8 Regulatory Alignment</b>		
SO 3356	d.7	Work cooperatively w/ state, tribal, and territorial wildlife agencies to ensure that hunting and fishing regulations for Dept lands/waters complement the regulations on the surrounding lands/waters to extent legally possible	N/A	
SO 3356	d.8	Begin necessary process to modify regulations in order to advance shared wildlife conservation goals/objectives that align predator-management programs, seasons, and methods of take permitted on all Dept managed lands and waters w/ corresponding programs, season, and methofs established by state, tribal, and territorial wildlife management agencies	180 days	3/15/2018
		<b>e. Guidance &amp; Documentation</b>		
SO 3356	e.1	Create an implementation plan to update all exisiting regs, orders, guidance documents, policies, instructions, manuals, directives, notices, implementation actions, new employee training orders, and any other similar action to be consistent with this order	180 days	3/15/2018
SO 3356	e.2	Review and use best available science to inform the development of specific guidelines for Dept lands/waters related to planning and developing energy transmission, infrastructure, or other relevant projects	180 days	3/15/2018
		<b>f. SES Performance</b>		
SO 3356	f	Heads of Bureaus will ensure that appropriate SES employees include performance standard in their respective current or future performance plan that specifically implements the applicable actions ID in this order		