

# Border Wall Builders LLC

*A Texas Limited Liability Company*

<https://borderwallbuilders.com>

Email: [dcameron.bwb@gmail.com](mailto:dcameron.bwb@gmail.com)

Phone: (832) 791-1961

# **Label: "Border Fence"**

**Created by:robert\_jess@fws.gov**

Total Messages in label:672 (227 conversations)

Created: 09-29-2017 at 12:31 PM

# Conversation Contents

**Re: Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge Address: 3325 Green Jay, Alamo, TX 78516**

**Attachments:**

/164. Re: Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge Address: 3325 Green Jay, Alamo, TX 78516/1.1 preview.jpeg

## **Border Wall <[dcameron.bwb@gmail.com](mailto:dcameron.bwb@gmail.com)>**

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**From:** Border Wall <[dcameron.bwb@gmail.com](mailto:dcameron.bwb@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Fri Apr 14 2017 10:40:14 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** <[Christine\\_Donald@fws.gov](mailto:Christine_Donald@fws.gov)>, <[robert\\_jess@fws.gov](mailto:robert_jess@fws.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge Address: 3325 Green Jay, Alamo, TX 78516  
**Attachments:** preview.jpeg

On Fri, Apr 14, 2017 at 11:27 AM, Border Wall <[dcameron.bwb@gmail.com](mailto:dcameron.bwb@gmail.com)> wrote:

Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge

**Address:** 3325 Green Jay, Alamo, TX 78516

**Phone:** [\(956\) 784-7500](tel:(956)784-7500)

Rob Jess

[robert.jess@fws.gov](mailto:robert.jess@fws.gov)

Hi Rob,

Please click our website and call me to discuss the installation of this fence on your river easement.

Thank you,

Sent from: Border Wall Builders LLC — Don Cameron [\(832\) 791-1961](tel:(832)791-1961)

719 Sawdust Road #204 The Woodlands, TX 77380

Website: <https://borderwallbuilders.com>

Inline image 1



## Santa Ana NWR Facilities and Visitor Services Responsibilities

### **Habitat/Wildlife Management**

Invasive species management – inventory and treat invasive trees on the Refuge

Wildlife control of nutria and feral hogs on Santa Ana

Wetland management – improve wetland units as needed, maintain suitable water levels, have wetlands ready to go 2-3 weeks before butterfly and birding festivals in fall

Semi-annually flood Resaca loop flood forest

Restore Pintail 7 to ...?

Conduct re-vegetation efforts to restore Resaca loop

### **Facilities management/improvements**

Update SAMMS

Improve Cattail Lakes water delivery system. Cattail lakes have been dry for a long period of time because water cannot be delivered to the wetland.

Trail maintenance – Mow, trim and spray trails and edges.

Resurface Chachalaca trail with red-crushed granite

Restore approx. 1.5 mi of trails that were closed down (Oriole trail west of jaguarondi trail no longer being maintained).

Completion of Santa Ana Sign Plan – needs an accurate estimate of priority signs that will need to be purchased/replaced (NOT including interpretive signs), an and an assessment of the Regional transportation coordinator to determine what road sign improvements will need to be made.

Tour Loop improvements

Repair/replace tour loop with improvements for new uses\*

Maintaining trail crosswalks on Tour Loop and adding necessary signage on crosswalks

Maintain vegetation trimmed

Painting biking lanes/signage\*

\*if approved by RD

Enhance Curb appeal of Refuge entrance

Improve the aesthetic appearance and address visitor's needs in the following Refuge focal areas:

VC and Breezeway

Chachalaca trail

Rio Grande overlook (Pintail lakes trail and jaguarondi trail)

Cemetery

Observation Towers

Old HQ and adjacent parking lot

Photo Blind  
Old HQ pond and Malachite trail  
Willow Lakes Overlook  
Parking lots

The following should be considered when addressing the above:

Is there adequate seating to meet the needs of multigenerational groups?  
Is there adequate signage?  
Is there enough shade?  
Are there enough trash/recycling bins in focal refuge areas?  
Are the facilities properly maintained and look decent? Are they clean?  
Is the vegetation neatly trimmed and maintained?

Replace dilapidated footbridge on Willow Lakes trail

Convert old HQ parking lot into covered pavilion/seating area

Replace southern trails orientation signs

Clean/clear old biology closet and expand auditorium. Make modifications to improve auditorium and create additional meeting space/volunteer workspace. (Alchemy of Design recommendations)

Clean and make improvements to fishbowl/volunteer workspace.

Transfer of volunteer RV pads from SA to Marinoff, oversee maintenance of RV pads prior to volunteer season, and create a gathering space (they lack volunteer facility to do that).

Janitorial Contract

### **Visitor Services**

Evaluation of non-traditional uses and other activities on Santa Ana

Commercial Photography (not nature-related)  
Virtual Geocaching  
Picnicking  
Bicycling (submitted through DTS)  
Kayaking (during special events)  
Scientific Research  
Oral Rabies Vaccinations

Updating Compatibility Determinations for traditional uses on Santa Ana

Wildlife Observation  
Amateur and Commercial Nature Photography  
Environmental Education  
Interpretation  
Commercial Wildlife-Observation (tours)

Visitor Interpretive Experience Plan – continue to be involved in the development of the Santa Ana NWR VIEP. Plan will help implement facility and Interpretive program improvements on-site to enhance the experience of visitors.

Provide oversight of the Interpretive Program. Interpretive programs include:

- Tram

Provide oversight of Outdoor-Recreational and Wildlife-Oriented Programs such as:

- Guided Nature Walks
- Guided Bird Walks
- Nature Photography
- Special Recreation Permits

Provide oversight of Refuge events

- Refuge Week (usually the second week of October)
- Hosting field trips of the Texas Butterfly Festival (usually the last weekend of October)
- Hosting field trips of the RGV Birding Festival (usually the first Thursday – Sunday of November)
- Santa Ana NWR Christmas Count (usually the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of December)
- Winter Texan Appreciation Day (usually the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of February)
- Hawk Watch (March 15<sup>th</sup> – April 15<sup>th</sup>)
- Family Fun Day (Usually the first Saturday of the month)
- Pollinator Week (varies)
- Outdoor Day
- Junior Ranger Day
- National Public Lands Day

Oversight and management of VC operations such as:

- Staffing and Hours of Operation 362 days of the year
- Fee Booth operations
- Fee collection

Coordination with Friends for assistance in events, Refuge needs, nature store coordination.

Maintain stock of Refuge publications. Revise and update Refuge publications such as:

- Santa Ana Fact Sheet (I/P 2017) in Spanish and English
- Santa Ana Refuge Map
- Santa Ana Species Lists (Bird list, Butterfly lists)
- LRGV rack cards
- Laguna rack cards
- Etc.

SA/LRGV Visitor Services Step-Down Plan?

Update ORP PD to VS Manager?

### **Volunteer Program**

# **Label: "Border Fence"**

**Created by:robert\_jess@fws.gov**

Total Messages in label:672 (227 conversations)

Created: 09-29-2017 at 12:37 PM

# Conversation Contents

**Santa Ana transition**

**Attachments:**

/192. Santa Ana transition/1.1 Santa Ana NWR\_Transition.docx  
/192. Santa Ana transition/3.1 Santa Ana NWR\_Transition.docx

**"Chapa, Gisela" <gisela\_chapa@fws.gov>**

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**From:** "Chapa, Gisela" <gisela\_chapa@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon Mar 13 2017 15:16:20 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** Bryan Winton <bryan\_winton@fws.gov>  
**CC:** Sonny Perez <sonny\_perez@fws.gov>, Robert Jess <robert\_jess@fws.gov>, Boyd Blihovde <boyd\_blihovde@fws.gov>  
**Subject:** Santa Ana transition  
**Attachments:** Santa Ana NWR\_Transition.docx

Bryan,

Just tired to capture all the Facility/VS related items that might become your responsibility. I compiled this long list of things so we can discuss maybe tomorrow? I also have a list of the projects that were funded through Rec Fee that will also fall under facility improvements/VS.

Thanks!

Gisela Chapa  
Refuge Manager  
Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge  
3325 Green Jay Road  
Alamo, Texas 78516

-----  
956-784-7541  
956-357-1222 (C)  
956-787-8338 (F)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6eTg6FQT5hM>  
[http://www.fws.gov/refuge/santa\\_ana/](http://www.fws.gov/refuge/santa_ana/)

**"One generation plants a tree...the next enjoys the shade."  
-Anonymous**

**"Winton, Bryan" <bryan\_winton@fws.gov>**

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**From:** "Winton, Bryan" <bryan\_winton@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon Mar 13 2017 15:36:30 GMT-0600 (MDT)

**To:** "Chapa, Gisela" <gisela\_chapa@fws.gov>  
Sonny Perez <sonny\_perez@fws.gov>, Robert Jess  
<robert\_jess@fws.gov>, Boyd Blihovde  
<boyd\_blihovde@fws.gov>  
**CC:**  
**Subject:** Re: Santa Ana transition

Wow! We will need to discuss each item and determine what: 1) must be done; 2) what would be nice to do; and 3) items that are funding-dependent; and 4) items that maybe wishful thinking at this point..... or some categories along those lines.

Anyway, I'm still trying to figure out whether you are happy or devastated about this transition? If you're bothered at all by it I want you to know I'd like to keep you plugged in wherever possible, even though it will be up to me to push some or many of these items to the finish line?!!!

Not sure I'll have time tomorrow to visit about this. I will be attending the PLLA Meeting at McAllen CBP Station from 9-11am. Will be meeting with Rob and Ernesto about additional Border Fence and our environmental concerns from 0730-0815. And have a 1pm meeting with UTRGV Stargate about their development in the Boca Chica village area (they haven't been consulting with ESA/NEPA). And, have a Dr. Appt at 4pm tomorrow so I'll pretty much be on the move all day tomorrow. My schedule is open for the 10am meeting Wednesday. I'm assuming we can go through the list then and work much of this out?!

bryan

On Mon, Mar 13, 2017 at 4:16 PM, Chapa, Gisela <[gisela\\_chapa@fws.gov](mailto:gisela_chapa@fws.gov)> wrote:

Bryan,

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**"One generation plants a tree...the next enjoys the shade."  
-Anonymous**

--

Bryan R. Winton, Refuge Manager  
Lower Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuge

3325 Green Jay Road  
Alamo, Texas 78516  
(956) 784-7521 office; (956) 874-4304 cell

**"Chapa, Gisela" <gisela\_chapa@fws.gov>**

---

**From:** "Chapa, Gisela" <gisela\_chapa@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue Mar 14 2017 07:37:42 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Winton, Bryan" <bryan\_winton@fws.gov>  
**CC:** Sonny Perez <sonny\_perez@fws.gov>, Robert Jess <robert\_jess@fws.gov>, Boyd Blihovde <boyd\_blihovde@fws.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Santa Ana transition  
**Attachments:** Santa Ana NWR\_Transition.docx

Hey Bryan,

Yes, the list is long so I made some notes of what's been funding, what is ongoing work, and what needs funding (but should work towards). I am not devastated by the transition - I think Santa Ana needs the attention to make it the Refuge it needs to be. Still, I am hesitant to give up my role as Refuge Manager since I'm concerned that Santa Ana will be managed as a "traditional" refuge and not an urban refuge. I'm concerned that the concept of urban refuges is still not entirely understood and I wonder about the challenges that I will have to deal with in the near future. Most of this is fueled by some of the side convos (negative mostly) I've noticed are taking place: about FWS's branding efforts, urban efforts, about bicycling on the refuge, about the conflicts of urban refuges to birders, etc that leads me to believe that conversations we've had (as a group) about this transition are things I want to hear but that don't reflect the true intentions of the change. I'm just being honest here; I normally I would have a conversation about this rather than send an email but we've all been too busy.

With that said, I would still like to continue to be involved in facility-related projects - signage work, tour loop improvements, curb appeal, and anything that might be related to the visitor experience of the refuge. Lastly, the "cherry on top" for me would be to be involved in evaluating non-traditional uses on Santa Ana - this really is the cherry that will make santa ana a true urban refuge.

To answer your second email, I agree that it is important for the both of us to have a clear understanding of what it is I'm expected to do, what it is you are expected to do, and things we will continue to collaborate on. This list is only one half of the equation and I am still working on the Urban responsibilities. Once I have drafted that, it should give us a better idea of what the differences will be between our roles. I hope this can help us make an easier transition.

Thanks,

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**"One generation plants a tree...the next enjoys the shade."**

**-Anonymous**

On Mon, Mar 13, 2017 at 4:36 PM, Winton, Bryan <[bryan\\_winton@fws.gov](mailto:bryan_winton@fws.gov)> wrote:

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**"One generation plants a tree...the next enjoys the shade."**

**-Anonymous**

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Bryan R. Winton, Refuge Manager  
Lower Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuge

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Alamo, Texas 78516  
(956) 784-7521 office; (956) 874-4304 cell

# Background Information Regarding a Border Wall Along the Last 275 Miles of the Rio Grande

## **1. The proposed wall could include:**

- 86 miles of physical barrier on National Wildlife Refuges, State Parks, many other refuges and parks owned by Audubon, Nature Conservancy and NABA, and private lands along the Rio Grande between Falcon Dam in Starr County and the Gulf of Mexico in Cameron County
- Clearing of brush along the river up to 150' in width where construction of the wall will take place
- A road suitable for driving up to 50 miles per hour along the wall

## **2. The proposed wall could affect:**

- Establishment of eminent domain on private lands along the river for private landowners unwilling to sell
- Complete prevention of access to the river from the wall, meaning no access for farmers and ranchers whose livelihoods depend on the water rights they have purchased
- No access for wildlife enthusiasts interested in wildlife watching, canoeing, kayaking, and hiking along the river. Eco-tourism brings more than \$125 million to the RGV annually from 200,000 eco-tourists, creating 2,500 jobs in the local economy
- Destroying a 25 year effort to restore the river wildlife corridor. Approximately \$70 million has been spent on land acquisition and \$20 million on re-forestation efforts. Thousands of school children and other volunteers have planted thousands of native plants and trees. Dozens of local, state and federal entities and organizations have partnered to create the Wildlife Corridor
- Very rare species of birds and other animals that are only found in the Rio Grande Valley in the U.S. which are species highly valued by eco-tourist. I.e.: Brown Jay, Muscovy Duck
- Both endangered and threatened species listed by the federal government and state uses the riparian habitat and would face possible extinction or extirpation. I.e.: Ocelot, Jaguarundi,
- No access to drinking water for wildlife unable to breach the wall
- No access to habitats across the river (and/or just across the wall) for wildlife, leaving them in isolated communities creating genetic gridlock and promoting extirpation and/or extinction
- Many historical and archeological sites with national and international significance

## **3. Border Fence Legislation facts:**

- Section 102 of the 2005 REAL ID Act states: "...the Secretary of Homeland Security shall have the authority to waive, and shall waive, all laws such Secretary, in such Secretary sole's discretion, determines necessary to ensure expeditious construction of the barriers and roads under this section", which is to say that Secretary of Homeland Security Michael Chertoff has the power to wave any and all federal laws, including the Endangered Species Act, National Environmental Policy Act and more in the name of homeland security
- The *Secure Fence Act of 2006* directs Department of Homeland Security to:
  - Take all actions necessary to achieve and maintain control over international borders within 18 months.
  - Construct at least two layers of reinforced fencing and additional physical barriers, roads, cameras, sensors and lighting on 700 linear miles along specific areas of the Mexican border.
  - Construct 370 miles of physical fence before the end of 2008, including 153 miles in Texas, 129 in Arizona, and 12 in New Mexico, while California gets 76

## **4. Talking Points for Texas Senators Hutchison and Cornyn:**

- Thank you for your recent efforts to amend S. 1348, the immigration reform bill, to require the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to take into consideration the concerns

raised by states, local governments, and property owners in places where a wall would be constructed

- Requiring DHS to consult with state, local, and tribal officials, as well as land management agencies, before wall construction is an important component missing from the Secure Fence Act of 2006 and the Real ID Act
- I am still concerned because the amendment still requires the DHS to construct 700 miles of wall along the border.
- The new legislation needs to allow DHS to choose the type of barriers best used, which would allow for a smart fence. Current legislation only specifies and allows for a wall.
- In addition, per the REAL ID Act, DHS still has the authority to waive any and all regulations and laws

#### **5. Talking Points for United States Congresspersons:**

- Please support any legislation or amendments to any legislation that:
  - Requires DHS to consult with state, local, and tribal officials, as well as land management agencies, before wall construction. This is an important component missing from the Secure Fence Act of 2006 and the Real ID Act
  - Allows DHS to choose the type of barriers best used, which would allow for a smart fence. Current legislation only specifies and allows for a wall.
  - Would modify the Secure Fence Act of 2006 and allow DHS to replace the proposed wall with a smart fence
  - Repeals the REAL ID Act. DHS still has the authority to waive any and all regulations and laws which spells disaster for farmers, ranchers, nature tourists, recreational opportunities, wildlife and habitats
- With the use of advanced technology, a smart fence would:
  - Use the most recent technology that would help keep agents and those they apprehend safer by allowing them to detect undocumented migrants well in advance of any encounter
  - Eliminate concerns of livestock and wildlife having access to the river, thereby eliminating the legitimate concerns of cattle ranchers, farmers and conservationists
  - Allow for the continuation of the thriving nature tourism and hunting industry in the impoverished region of South Texas
  - Save tax-payer dollars since there would be no purchasing of property, clearing and/or maintaining dense brush, and construction and long-term maintenance of the fence
- While a smart fence is not without its problems, a wall is simply not effective in the effort to stop or even curb illegal immigration
- When writing use all the points listed in sections 1-3 as well

#### **6. What You Can Do:**

- Write, Fax, E-mail and Call all your U.S. Senators and U.S. Representatives using the above info
- Write, Fax, E-mail and Call all your Texas State Senators and Representatives using the same info urging them to get involved
- Forward this to anyone with an interest in conservation, human rights and private property rights
- Forward this fact sheet to as many people you know nation wide and encourage them to get involved
- Keep the issue alive by forwarding articles and videos posted on the list serve to as many people you know nation wide
- Join the Yahoo's listserve -- NoBorderWall

- Take a stand! Keep informed; attend meetings; question your elected officials and let them know you do not support a wall; talk to your neighbors; participate in protests; and help spread the word!!!

## **7. Some of the Many Wildlife Refuges & Parks That Could Be Affected –**

Lower Rio Grande Valley NWR: The LRGV NWR is a 90,000 acre refuge found on the most southern tip of Texas. This wildlife corridor refuge follows the Rio Grande along its last stretch and includes 70+ miles of river front. Taxpayers have spent \$90M since 1979 in land acquisitions and restorations for what is considered one of the most biologically diverse areas in North America. The 11 distinct ecosystems found here are host or home to over 1,100 plant species and 700 vertebrates (of which 513 are birds) and 20 threatened and endangered species.

Santa Ana NWR: This 2,088 acre refuge is considered the ‘jewel’ of the Refuge System with a documented 407 species of birds. Bird watchers from all 50 states and 35 countries come here to see species found no where else in the United States, including the Green Jay, Chachalaca, Great Kiskadee, Altamira Oriole and more.

Sabal Palms Audubon Sanctuary:

NABA Butterfly Park:

Bentsen State Park & World Birding Center:

Roma World Birding Center:

TNC Chihuahuan Woods:

TNC Southmost Preserve:

## **8. Elected Officials**

To find your federal elected officials: [www.senate.gov](http://www.senate.gov) and [www.house.gov](http://www.house.gov)

To find your Texas State elected officials:  
<http://www.lrl.state.tx.us/citizenResources/ContactLeg.html>

### **TEXAS RESIDENTS**

#### **The Honorable Kay Bailey Hutchison**

284 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510-4304  
Phone: 202-224-5922  
Fax: 202-224-0776

#### **The Honorable John Cornyn**

517 Hart Senate Office Bldg.  
Washington, DC 20510  
Tel: 202-224-2934  
Fax: 202-228-2856

**SOUTH TEXAS RESIDENTS**

**The Honorable Solomon P. Ortiz**

U.S. House of Representatives

2110 Rayburn HOB

Washington DC 20515

Phone: (202)225-7742

Fax: (202) 226-1134

**The Honorable Rubén Hinojosa**

U.S. House of Representatives

2463 Rayburn HOB

Washington, D.C. 20515

Phone: (202) 225-2531

Fax: (202)225-5688

**The Honorable Henry Cuellar**

336 Cannon House Office Building

Washington, DC 20515

phone: 202-225-1640

fax: 202-225-1641

**The Honorable Ciro D. Rodriguez**

2458 Rayburn HOB

Washington, DC 20515

Phone: (202) 225-4511

June 29, 2007

## **Lower Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuge Lands Directly and Indirectly Affected by the Proposed Border Fence Plans**

Bryan Winton, Refuge Manager

Current Refuge Acreage Total (not including lands managed by Laguna Atascosa NWR) = **83,193.9** acres

Refuge Lands to be Directly (Physically) Impacted by the Fence = **4,606.23** acres  
5.5% of total refuge acreage)

Refuge Lands to be Directly and Indirectly Impacted by the Fence = **61,165.44** acres  
73.5% of total refuge acreage)

Refuge Lands Arguably Not Affected by the Proposed Fence = **22,028.46** acres  
Includes:

<i>Los Olmos</i>	= 1,424.9 acres
<i>Monte Cristo</i>	= 2,701.62 acres
<i>Goodfields</i>	= 358.68 acres
<i>Tiocano Lake</i>	= 435.94 acres
<i>Thompson Road</i>	= 30.0 acres
<i>Willamar</i>	= 1,162.22 acres
<i>San Perlita</i>	= 272.42 acres
<i>El Jardin</i>	= 209.03 acres
<i>Lozano</i>	= 42.09 acres
<i>Las Yescas</i>	= 20.09 acres
<i>Lantana</i>	= 34.81 acres
<i>Mercedes</i>	= 37.36 acres
<i>Noreiga</i>	= 200.0 acres
<i>Fish Hatchery</i>	= 249.1 acres

### Un-measurable Impacts Associated with the Proposed Border Fence:

1. Impact to refuge lands located south of the fence but north of the river (no man's land)
2. Impact to refuge lands NOT fenced (future traffic may be directed/magnified there)
3. Impact to refuge resources caused by additional roads on lands with Fence (roadkill)
  - fence will hinder mammal movements; mammals will follow the fence seeking an opening making their proximity to the newly created roads next to the fence troublesomely close.
4. Impact to migratory birds due to "fence habitat" which will expand suitability to nest parasitizers
5. Impacts are contingent upon design of fence. Proper fence design that will allow small/med mammals to pass but impedes human traffic, could render the fence much less harmful.

**Lower Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuge Tracts directly affected by the Proposed Border Fence  
June 30, 2007**

<i>Tract Name</i>	<i>Miles of Fence</i> <sup>1</sup>	<i>acres</i>	<i>Where Located</i>	<i>Problems</i>
Monterrey Banco	0.075 miles 0.825 miles 0.1875 miles	100.0	west boundary north boundary east boundary	Bisects property access/safety access to water (canal)
La Coma	0.1875 miles	639.24	northern	Bisects property
Rosario Banco	0.4 miles	33.5	central	Bisects property
Culebron Banco	0.25 miles	37.8	east central	Bisects property (water)
Vaqueteria Banco	0.1875 miles	2.69	north boundary (2 tracts)	access/safety
Tahuachal Banco	0.25 miles	175.16	central	Bisects property (cat corridor)
Palo Blanco	0.3125 miles	30.02	north boundary	access/safety
Phillips Banco	0.325 miles 0.65 miles	336.15	western edge southern boundary	Bisects property access to water (river)
Jeronimo Banco	0.3 miles	288.04	eastern edge	access/safety
Boscaje de La Palma	0.3125 miles 0.3125 miles	365.0	north central north boundary	Bisects property access/safety
Hidalgo Bend	1.5 miles	519.7	north boundary	access/safety
Pate Bend	1.575 miles	441.81	east boundary	access/safety
Granjeno	0.1 miles	2.62	southern boundary	access to water (river)
Kiskadee WMA	0.1 miles	10.15	central	Bisects property
Penitas	0.75 miles	14.3	north boundary	access/safety
Los Ebanos	0.6 miles 0.15 miles	711.78	southern boundary northern boundary	access to water (river) access/safety
Rio San Juan	0.1 miles	118.39	central	Bisects property (partially)
Los Negros Creek	0.35 miles	111.51	south boundary	access to water (river)
Arroyo Ramirez	1.0 miles	668.37	south boundary	access to water (river)
Total Acreage		4,606.23		
Total Miles of Fence		10.8 miles		
Bisects Property		2.0 miles		
Access/Safety		5.9125 miles		
Access to Water by Wildlife		2.8875 miles		

<sup>1</sup>*Miles of Fence*—Miles of Fence for each LRGV NWR Tract were determined by transcribing Round 1 Proposed Border Fence Alignments (provided by fax copies on small-scale topographical maps) onto Refuge GIS Tract Maps. Only those tracts to be directly affected by fence related infrastructure/disturbance are included.

**October, 2 2007**

**INFORMATION MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR**

**FROM:** Benjamin N. Tuggle, Regional Director, Southwest Region

**TELEPHONE #:** 505-248-6282

**SUBJECT:** Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Plans for Border Fence in Texas Including Lands within the Lower Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuge

**I. SUMMARY**

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (COE) met informally at Santa Ana NWR with South Texas Refuge Complex and Corpus Christi Ecological Services (ES) staff on May 4, 2007, and disclosed that 70 miles of border fence will be installed by December 31, 2008, along the southern three counties of the Lower Rio Grande Valley, primarily at international crossings and high traffic areas. A subset of the 70 miles of fenced areas would include lands within the Lower Rio Grande Valley NWR.

The COE is performing real estate functions for DHS Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and is contacting private landowners and the Service to coordinate required land transactions. The COE realty staff informed Refuge Complex staff that lands within the Lower Rio Grande Valley NWR would be the first to receive fencing because these lands are already federally owned.

On May 29, 2007, local CBP leadership formally met with Refuge Complex and ES to inform the Service of their tentative plans to construct fencing on Lower Rio Grande Valley NWR. Subsequently, local CBP leadership requested a meeting with the Refuge and ES to visit potential Refuge lands that would be affected by the fence. Tentative maps were provided that showed extensive areas along the river on private and Refuge lands that would be fenced. Field visits to western Refuge tracts revealed multiple issues with the construction of a border fence. Issues included barriers to wildlife migration; genetic isolation of wildlife populations, including endangered species; barriers to wildlife for obtaining water; engineering concerns with unstable soils and impeded storm water flows; brushland habitat loss; and staff and visitor security and safety concerns.

On August 31, 2007, Refuge and ES staff met with COE and Border Patrol Representatives to further discuss right-of-way (ROW) issues. COE and Border Patrol were informed of Service policy and procedures for obtaining ROWs as well as Appropriate Refuge Use and Compatibility Determination processes. Subsequently, field visits by DHS, COE, consultants, and Refuge and ES staff were conducted between September 10-13, 2007, to private and Refuge lands. On

September 14, 2007, a meeting was held at the Harlingen, Texas, Border Patrol Headquarters with consultants responsible for the preparation of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and Section 7 Consultation with ES. Engineering-Environmental Management, Inc., and Baker Corporation presented plans to develop the EIS and, in association, to conduct natural resources, cultural resources, and engineering surveys on private and Refuge lands. A full discussion of Appropriate Refuge Use and Compatibility policies and procedures occurred with the consultants and Border Patrol representatives related to access to the Refuge for survey purposes.

## **II. DISCUSSION**

Refuge staff first became aware of a real intent on the part of DHS to construct border fences within the operational jurisdiction of the South Texas Refuge Complex and Corpus Christi ES Office with newspaper articles from Roma, Texas, during the week of April 23, 2007. These newspaper articles covered contacts made by CBP with private landowners in the Roma area. This intention was confirmed in a meeting on April 27, 2007, attended by Congressman Henry Cuellar, (D) Laredo, Texas; City of Roma officials; and Refuge Complex staff. Ecological Services and Refuge staff attended a meeting with COE realty staff on May 4, 2007, where discussions centered on Federal land permit issues related to the border fence.

Local CBP leadership carried out their self-imposed outreach requirements in a meeting with Refuge Complex and ES staff on May 29, 2007. Although CBP leadership confirmed that fencing is coming to the Refuge, no details were released. A subsequent meeting with local CBP leadership was held in the field on June 20, 2007. Maps detailing probable fence sites on the Refuge were presented to the Refuge and several Refuge tracts were visited on the west side. Significant wildlife, engineering, and safety issues were raised during this visit. On July 7, 2007, Congressman Price (D-NC), Congressman Culberson (R-TX), and Congressman Ortiz (D-TX), all members of the House Appropriations Committee and Subcommittee for Homeland Security visited the Refuge on a fact-finding tour.

Refuge Complex and ES concerns regarding border fencing continue to be conveyed to DHS both orally and in writing. Placement and design of the border fence remain unclear as the EIS is prepared, Section 7 Consultations take place, and Refuges and ES convey suggestions for lessening the impacts of the proposed fence on private and Refuge lands. Wetland and cultural resource issues are also unknown at this time but natural resource and cultural resource surveys have been requested by the contractors (subject to Appropriate Refuge Use and Compatibility Determinations on Refuge lands). ES staff continues to work with DHS and their contractors on additional private lands proposed in the State. Discussions during the May 4 meeting with COE indicated that DHS may use its

waiver authority granted under the Real ID Act of 2006 for existing regulations such as the ESA, NEPA, and Refuge Administration Act.

### **III. MESSAGES AND ANSWERS**

Serious, and likely irreparable, wildlife and habitat loss and damage are likely to result from the placement of 70 miles of border fence along the lower Rio Grande River that will include impacts to lands held in trust by the Lower Rio Grande Valley NWR. The total number of miles of fence that would be constructed on the Refuge is unclear at this time. Discussions continue with DHS regarding the placement of fences on Refuge lands and work is underway to verify Federal ownership where fencing is proposed on or next to Refuge boundaries. DHS currently estimates 2.5 miles of fence on Refuge lands; however, depending on the actual location and placement of fences, this length of fence on the Refuge may reach up to 10 miles.

Impacts are not limited to Refuge lands with actual fencing. It is very likely that numerous other Refuge tracts (non-fenced) on the Lower Rio Grande Valley NWR will be seriously impacted by increased illegal traffic and Border Patrol activities. The overall impacts to the Refuge through direct and indirect effects may reach 60-70 percent of the Refuge. Santa Ana NWR, which is centrally located along the Rio Grande, may also experience similar indirect impacts. There is significant safety, security, and logistical issues for Refuge operations and maintenance included in the placement of a pedestrian-proof fence on Refuge lands.

Of immediate concern is the Appropriate Refuge Use and Compatibility Determination processes related to requests by the DHS contractors to conduct natural, cultural, and engineering surveys on the Refuge (related to the development of an EIS and Section 7 Consultation for the project). The timeframe needed to complete these processes does not allow DHS to fulfill their schedule requirements, and it is very likely that the engineering surveys will be found not an Appropriate Use of the Refuge. Though a significant issue, the impact of not being able to carry-out engineering surveys is small in comparison to the likelihood that the construction of a pedestrian proof fence on the Refuge will be found neither an Appropriate Refuge Use nor a Compatible Use.

**PREPARED BY:** Benjamin N. Tuggle **DATE:** 10/01/2007  
Regional Director, Region 2

**APPROVED BY:** Benjamin N. Tuggle **DATE:** 10/01/2007  
Regional Director, Region 2

## Note to Reviewers

This briefing paper was requested by the WO for the Director's testifying before the House Natural Resources Committee, Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife, and Oceans next Tuesday. These will be used for preparation for the hearing.

Matt Huggler is the recipient of the BPs with a copy to ANRS.

For any additional information, please contact:      Chris S. Pease  
Regional Refuge Chief  
505-248-7419

**JUSTIFICATION FOR CONCERN:**

The primary wildlife conservation strategy for the Lower Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuge (LRGV NWR) is the creation of a wildlife corridor that links numerous isolated habitat fragments. The Refuge currently manages 113 individual tracts totaling 88,044 acres and is authorized to purchase additional lands, up to 132,500 total acres in Cameron, Willacy, Hidalgo and Starr Counties of South Texas.

The protected lands of the Refuge are considered to be one of the most biodiverse in the continental United States. LRGV NWR manages habitats supporting 516 species of birds (more than half of the species sited in the United States and Canada), 300 species of butterflies, 115 species of reptiles and amphibians, and 83 species of mammals known to occur in the lower Rio Grande valley and adjacent Gulf of Mexico coastal waters. Presently, 776 plant species are documented on the LRGV NWR, but an estimate of the total number of plant species occurring in the Refuge's acquisition boundary is placed at 1,200 species. This tremendous biodiversity is in part the result of four converging climates (tropical, coastal, temperate and desert) and the funneling of two migratory flyways (the Central and the Mississippi).

When the project began in 1979, 95% of the lower Rio Grande valley's unique habitat had been eliminated, primarily for agriculture. Land acquisition for LRGV NWR began in 1980 and has included the purchase of existing habitat, as well as strategically located farmland. LRGV NWR prioritizes acquisition of lands along the Rio Grande extending 275 river miles from Falcon Dam to Boca Chica. When possible, parcels are secured that will serve as links connecting separate Refuge tracts (the analogy being that of a chain, with even a single link missing, does not function); inholdings are purchased when possible. Areas that have unique or notable resources, or on which endangered species are known to occur, receive priority for acquisition. LRGV NWR has developed an extensive cooperative farming and revegetation program that restores between 750 and 1,000 acres of farmland per year to native habitat, this in order to create additional wildlife habitat and alleviate habitat fragmentation.

This wildlife corridor Refuge includes the lower Rio Grande valley and adjacent upland regions. To the north lies the Laguna Atascosa National Wildlife Refuge and the great Texas ranch country with large blocks of intact habitat. Directly to the south are ecologically valuable areas such as the Laguna Madre of Tamaulipas, and the Sierra de los Picachos (in Nuevo Leon), Mexico which are receiving focused conservation attention from the Mexican Government and a number of interested Mexican and U.S. organizations.

More than 25 years into the project, the Fish & Wildlife Service is now seeing great returns on its investment. The earliest restoration efforts have matured to produce habitats that are harboring species of plants and animals that can be seen nowhere else in the United States.

### **Biological Impacts of Concern:**

- An impermeable fence (to illegal human traffic and wildlife) along the Texas border would have adverse effects to approximately 39 listed species and many other trust species (i.e., candidate species, migratory birds, etc.).
  
- **Potential direct effects** from placement of an impermeable fence along the border:
  - Cessation or restriction of movements within and among populations may isolate small populations or disrupt metapopulation dynamics. Restricting movement would be particularly detrimental for species that rely on connectivity with Mexico for their continued existence in such as the endangered ocelot and jaguarundi.
  - Cessation or reduction in gene flow among or within populations that may result in loss of genetic variability in populations and ultimately reduce the likelihood of species' long-term survival.
  - Habitat reduction, loss, fragmentation, degradation (footprint of fence and road; disruption of hydrological processes by fence and road placement; increased erosion and diminished water quality in riparian and aquatic zones if these areas are not avoided, etc.).
  - Impingement of animals depending on type of fence material.
  - Temporary disturbance to species during construction; ongoing disturbance for maintenance and operations.
  - Potential risks of increased vehicle strikes for ocelots, jaguarundi, birds and bats.
  - International bridges already act as east-west barriers along with highways with median jersey walls and no wildlife crossings in the Rio Grande Valley. The border fence will act as a north-south barrier causing even more species' isolation and fragmentation.
  - Increased lighting at night along the fence will have negative impacts on animals such rodents, frogs, ocelots, and jaguarundi by making them more susceptible to predation. These areas will also be avoided by other species such as neotropical birds searching for nesting sites.
  - In the arid Tamaulipan thornscrub of Starr County and semi-arid areas along the Texas border, the only surface water animals have is the Rio Grande. A border wall would prevent animals from accessing their only water source.
  - Invasive, non-native grasses, which threaten reforestation efforts through competition and volatility, are likely to be exacerbated by the clearing of brush and the establishment of a fence/road corridor.
  - The safety and security of refuge staff conducting refuge operations and management activities south of a Border Fence is a great concern.
  - Long-time security for natural resources south of a Border Fence, which may or may not be safely managed and monitored, is a significant concern.
  - The Refuge experiences a peak of 300 wildfires per year, on average. Fighting wildfire is extremely dangerous, particularly if escape routes are limited due to a Border Fence. Natural Resource protection may be jeopardized due to public safety, or lack thereof, due to the challenges (safety) of fighting wildfires south of a Border Fence.

- The Lower Rio Grande Valley is comprised of over 125 separate and distinct tracts of land that represent what is left of the 5% of remaining Tamaulipan Thornscrub habitat—all that is left in South Texas. Further fragmentation of those "fragments" by a Border Fence greatly jeopardizes this Agency's ability to protect highly sensitive, secretive, and endangered species, like migratory birds, ocelot and jaguarundi.
- **Potential indirect effects** from placement of an impermeable fence along the border:
  - Agreements or Memorandum of Understandings between the Service and various other federal and state agencies in Texas and Mexico have been established after many years of negotiations to establish international wildlife corridors on both sides of the border. Sister parks will be impacted by the border fence and potentially reduce survival rates of the ocelot and jaguarundi in Texas.
  - Biological opinions issued for projects in the Valley that put in place acquisition and management of wildlife corridors and other measures could be fragmented and nullified by a fence.
  - Corridors established by the Lower Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuge and native habitat restoration activities could be lost or destroyed depending on the placement of the fence.
  - Redirection of illegal traffic to unsecured areas of the border may impact wildlife habitat that is now less disturbed and will definitely affect both Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge and Lower Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuge. Rural fence segments currently proposed to curtail high traffic will only shift problems (immigration, trafficking, smuggling, drugs, etc.) to new areas, presumably to new vegetated areas where cover and concealment is present (most likely on adjacent refuge tracts).
  - Management of areas located behind the fence will hinder responses for fire, wetland management and invasive grass and brush control along the fence and border patrol roads, resulting in a loss of habitat for listed species and prevention of brush restoration.

**Alternatives to a Permanent Fence we Recommend for Consideration:**

- Alternative technological solutions, such as ground based radar, have been successful in aiding and deterring smuggling activities with minimal impacts to sensitive wildlife populations.
- Construction of permanent vehicle barriers designed to allow for the passage of animals, generally have much fewer impacts on species than pedestrian barriers. Though they still result in certain impacts to species, they do not prevent movement of species and sever connectivity.
- Pedestrian barriers will likely have much fewer impacts on species if they are solely constructed within highly urbanized areas, where fewer trust resources occur. If pedestrian fences are constructed in areas other than highly urbanized areas, fence design should be modified to at a minimum allow for the passage of some species and in a manner that would reduce the likelihood of cat, bird, and bat entrapment or strikes.

**DISCUSSION:**

The Service has worked for more than 25 years (at an estimated cost of \$80 million) along the border to maintain and manage the refuge complex and build additional endangered cat/wildlife corridors through consultation with the International Boundary and Water Commission and partnership with private landowners. A fence could significantly lessen the success of these efforts.

The Lower Rio Grande/Rio Bravo Binational Ecosystem Group has been working with our Mexico counterparts to establish international wildlife corridors between Falcon Dam to Laguna Madre and north and south of the border to connect wildlife corridor linkages to the South Texas Refuge Complex and natural protected areas in Mexico. An MOU with these agencies in the State of Tamaulipas and Nuevo Leon, Mexico along with TPWD, TNC, South Texas Refuge Complex, and ES is being reviewed at the RO for signature. It has taken six years to establish this relationship through the Ecosystem Group to get to this agreement. The Laguna Madre Natural Protected Area in Tamaulipas, Mexico wants to enter into an MOU with Laguna Atascosa NWR to establish a sister park and work towards establishing an international wildlife corridor for the endangered ocelot. This corridor will be significantly impacted by the Border Fence.

**MAIN DECISION OR MESSAGE:**

Serious, and likely irreparable, wildlife and habitat loss and damage, such as severing genetic exchange and blocking access to water, is likely to result from the placement of 70+ miles of border fence along the lower Rio Grande River that includes refuge lands. There are also serious safety and logistical issues for refuge operations and maintenance included in the placement of fence on Refuge lands. Safety for refuge staff, fire fighters, and natural resources south of any future border fence is currently in question, given the limited access points proposed.

Immediate and comprehensive discussions need to take place between DHS, Ecological Services and the Refuges to minimize and mitigate effects of the construction and operation of a border fence along the lower Rio Grande River in Texas.

If it is determined that a fence will be constructed through the Lower Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuge, we recommend that the Border Patrol establish an environmental contact person who represents all 5 Border Patrol Sectors that occur within the Refuge boundary. Currently, the Sectors deal individually and inconsistently with the Service (Refuge). One Border Patrol Environmental voice would eliminate a considerable burden the Service currently faces when dealing with refuge concerns and would be a one-stop shopping approach to addressing other environmental concerns whether they occurred on/off refuge lands.

In addition, over the years, Refuge has witnessed, since its' establishment, the inability of the Border Patrol to conduct repairs to roads and trim encroaching brush, (particularly refuge roads) and B.P. traffic continually ruts up and damages refuge roads. A Border

Fence should not be constructed unless B.P. first establishes a permanent, capable maintenance program to conduct/perform maintenance to new infrastructure and associated access roads on the Refuge. Otherwise, refuge roads and wildlife habitat will undergo serious degradation and both agencies' operational effectiveness will be affected.

**BUREAU PERSPECTIVE:**

Service leadership should advocate continued involvement by Refuges and Ecological Service in the planning and implementation of a border fence. Point of Contact for South Texas Refuge Complex is Project Leader Ken Merritt (956) 784-7500.

Department of Homeland Security  
Excerpts of Talking Points  
December 7, 2007

- Secretary Chertoff has committed that DHS will build a total of 370 miles of pedestrian fence along the southwest border by the end of CY 2008.
- By the end of FY 2007, CBP had more than 145 miles of pedestrian fencing completed along the southwest border. By the end of CY 2008, an additional 225 miles will be built, for a total of 370 miles.
- Since May 2007, DHS has engaged in extensive discussions about the placement of the remaining 225 miles of fencing with state and local stakeholders, including landowners, to ensure that our investments effectively balance border security with the diverse needs of those that live in border communities. As part of these outreach efforts, DHS has contacted almost 600 different landowners and held 18 town hall meetings.
- As a result of these outreach efforts, there are many instances where we were able to make modifications to our original plans to accommodate landowner/community concerns/requirements while still meeting our operational needs. Some examples include:

1. We made numerous alignment changes to the Rio Grande Valley segments to limit impacts to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife (USFWS) National Wildlife Refuge areas, a bird watching observation facility in the City of Roma, and negate the need to relocate approximately 30 residences.

- The fence alignment at the Roma Port of Entry (POE) was initially proposed to be on top of a 30-foot bluff because we were not sure if it could be built below, due to flood plain issues. During our site visit in September, it was determined that placing the fence at the top of the bluff would impact historical buildings and brought about constructability issues. Building the fence on the bottom of the bluff would also make better operational sense. Based on these findings, U.S. Border Patrol, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and USFWS agreed that the fence would be placed at the bottom of the bluff.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife doesn't have any property around the Roma POE but supports the placing of the fence at the base of the bluff with the condition that brush removal will be minimal on both sides of the fence.

Schematics of this approach will be submitted to International Boundary and Water Commission for approval.

2. In Del Rio, Texas, we relocated an approximately 2.3 mile segment to negate the need to relocate approximately 10-12 residences.

3. In San Diego, California, we changed the alignment of a segment to significantly reduce the impacts to the Otay Mountain Wilderness area.

# **Label: "Border Fence"**

**Created by:robert\_jess@fws.gov**

Total Messages in label:672 (227 conversations)

Created: 09-29-2017 at 12:37 PM

# Conversation Contents

## Border Fence Infrastructure (Round 2) Concerns:

### Attachments:

/195. Border Fence Infrastructure (Round 2) Concerns:/1.1 Border Wall Talking Points.doc

/195. Border Fence Infrastructure (Round 2) Concerns:/1.2 BP Fence impacts. acreage& tracts breakdown.doc

/195. Border Fence Infrastructure (Round 2) Concerns:/1.3 BP Fence on Refuge.acres. impacts6-30-07.doc

/195. Border Fence Infrastructure (Round 2) Concerns:/1.4 BP028949 D-IM Border Fence in Texas Including Lower Rio Grande Valley NWR for House Committee Hearing 10-09-2007.doc

/195. Border Fence Infrastructure (Round 2) Concerns:/1.5 EIS Border Fence Concerns for South Texas Refuge Complex.doc

/195. Border Fence Infrastructure (Round 2) Concerns:/1.6 Talking Point Excerpts.doc

**"Winton, Bryan" <bryan\_winton@fws.gov>**

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**From:** "Winton, Bryan" <bryan\_winton@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon Mar 13 2017 09:31:22 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** Rob Jess <robert\_jess@fws.gov>, Ernesto Reyes <ernesto\_reyes@fws.gov>  
**CC:** Kelly McDowell <kelly\_mcdowell@fws.gov>  
**Subject:** Border Fence Infrastructure (Round 2) Concerns:  
Border Wall Talking Points.doc BP Fence impacts. acreage& tracts breakdown.doc BP Fence on Refuge.acres. impacts6-30-07.doc BP028949 D-IM Border Fence in Texas Including Lower Rio Grande Valley NWR for House Committee Hearing 10-09-2007.doc EIS Border Fence Concerns for South Texas Refuge Complex.doc Talking Point Excerpts.doc

**Attachments:**

Attached are some of the summaries we put together in 2007 when we learned of Border Infrastructure for the first time. Many of the concerns will be the same. We'll take from these to complete the table Kelly sent this a.m. and add based on other lessons learned since completion of the first 18 segments and 57 miles of fence--some of which is on/near refuge.

--

Bryan R. Winton, Refuge Manager  
Lower Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuge  
3325 Green Jay Road  
Alamo, Texas 78516  
(956) 784-7521 office; (956) 874-4304 cell

# **Label: "Border Fence"**

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# Conversation Contents

**Fwd: Trib+Water Vol: 5 Issue: 5**

**Attachments:**

/198. Fwd: Trib+Water Vol: 5 Issue: 5/1.1 2017 03 03 Scientists say border wall would devastate wildlife Texas Tribune.pdf

**"Gardiner, Dawn" <dawn\_gardiner@fws.gov>**

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**From:** "Gardiner, Dawn" <dawn\_gardiner@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Wed Mar 08 2017 10:23:23 GMT-0700 (MST)  
**To:** Ernesto Reyes <ernesto\_reyes@fws.gov>, Robert Jess <robert\_jess@fws.gov>, Bryan Winton <bryan\_winton@fws.gov>, Sonny Perez <sonny\_perez@fws.gov>, Kelly McDowell <kelly\_mcdowell@fws.gov>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Trib+Water Vol: 5 Issue: 5  
**Attachments:** 2017 03 03 Scientists say border wall would devastate wildlife Texas Tribune.pdf

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

**From:** **Gardiner, Dawn** <[dawn\\_gardiner@fws.gov](mailto:dawn_gardiner@fws.gov)>  
**Date:** Wed, Mar 8, 2017 at 11:22 AM  
**Subject:** Fwd: Trib+Water Vol: 5 Issue: 5  
**To:** Chuck Ardizzone <[chuck\\_ardizzone@fws.gov](mailto:chuck_ardizzone@fws.gov)>

Good article on border wall to prep for trip there to meet Jon and Ernesto on 3/15.

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

**From:** **Connor, Patrick** <[patrick\\_connor@fws.gov](mailto:patrick_connor@fws.gov)>  
**Date:** Wed, Mar 8, 2017 at 7:51 AM  
**Subject:** Fwd: Trib+Water Vol: 5 Issue: 5  
**To:** Lesli Gray <[lesli\\_gray@fws.gov](mailto:lesli_gray@fws.gov)>, Dawn Gardiner <[dawn\\_gardiner@fws.gov](mailto:dawn_gardiner@fws.gov)>

Lower Rio Grande valley wildlife news

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**Patrick Connor**  
**Fish and Wildlife Biologist**

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**Detail phone: 612 713 5344**  
**Detail Location: Region 3 Fisheries**

Mailing address on Detail

US Fish & Wildlife Service  
5600 American BLVD, Suite 990  
Bloomington, MN 55347

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Patrick\_Connor AT [fws.gov](mailto:patrick_connor@fws.gov)

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USFWS Ecological Services  
10711 Burnet RD STE 200  
Austin, TX 78758

<http://www.fws.gov/southwest/es/austintexas/>

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From: **The Texas Tribune** <[notifications@texastribune.org](mailto:notifications@texastribune.org)>  
Date: Wed, Mar 8, 2017 at 6:07 AM  
Subject: Trib+Water Vol: 5 Issue: 5  
To: [patrick\\_connor@fws.gov](mailto:patrick_connor@fws.gov)



Welcome to Trib+Water, a water news wrap-up and analysis prepared every other week by The Texas Tribune and the Meadows Center for Water and the Environment at Texas State University. We bring you the latest news and events concerning the river systems of Texas and important water issues on a state and regional level.

## Trib+Water Vol: 5 Issue: 5



### [Years after well explosion, Texas family still waiting for answers from agency](#)

by [Jim Malewitz](#)



A North Texas family is still waiting for answers about whether nearby gas production caused their water well to explode and why the Railroad Commission seemed to miss early signs that something like this could happen in their community.

### [Scientists say Trump's border wall would devastate wildlife habitat](#)

by [Kiah Collier](#) and [Neena Satija](#)



At the U.S.-Mexico border, scientists say existing fencing is hurting endangered wildlife and warn that a continuous wall could devastate many species.



### [Trump water directive cheered by ranchers, blasted by environmentalists](#)

by [Kiah Collier](#)



State leaders and agriculture groups applauded an executive order issued by President Trump on Tuesday that suggests the controversial "Waters of the U.S." rule finalized under President Obama could be reversed.



### [The Q&A: Meghan Hope](#)

by [Cassandra Pollock](#)



In this week's Q&A, we interview Meghan Hope, a policy analyst with the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts.



### [The Bookshelf: March 8, 2017](#)

by [Cassandra Pollock](#)



In this week's Bookshelf, our content partner Kirkus Reviews highlights The Outer Beach.



### [The Water Calendar](#)



Key meetings and events over the coming weeks.



### [Meadows Center to relaunch wetlands guided tour](#)



The Meadows Center for Water and the Environment is relaunching its guided Spring Lake wetlands tours.

**E. Dawn Gardiner**

**Assistant Field Supervisor**

**Texas Coastal Ecological Services Field Office**

**P.O. Box 81468**

**Corpus Christi, TX 78468-1468**



### [State team to help with endangered lizard study](#)



A research team has been awarded funds for a multi-year project to protect a lizard whose numbers are threatened by habitat removal, fragmentation and degradation.

**(361) 994-9005 x 259**

**(361) 533-6765 work cell**

### [Agencies protecting watersheds at local level](#)



Panelists at the recent Texas Water Symposium said science is crucial in assessing and solving problems.



### [Trump administration moves to limit Clean Water Act](#)



President Donald Trump has directed federal agencies to review an environmental rule subjecting small bodies of water to regulation under the Clean Water Act.

**E. Dawn Gardiner**

**Assistant Field Supervisor**

**Texas Coastal Ecological Services Field Office**

**P.O. Box 81468**

**Corpus Christi, TX 78468-1468**



### [California aquifers draining land's water storage capacity](#)

A study says that overpumping of aquifers in California's San Joaquin Valley is causing subsidence, or soil compaction, resulting in the reduction of the land's capacity to hold water.

**(361) 994-9005 x 259**

### [Utilities look to "big data" to stretch resources](#)

## (361) 533-6765 work cell



Dealing with crumbling water infrastructure and financial pressures, water utilities are increasingly turning to smart water solutions, using data and analytics to "do more with less."



### [Data App: Track Texas Reservoir Levels](#)

by [Ryan Murphy](#)



Using data from the Texas Water Development Board's reservoir status tracker, our auto-updating map visualizes the current state of Texas reservoirs.

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## Scientists say Trump's border wall would devastate wildlife habitat

At the U.S.-Mexico border, scientists say existing fencing is hurting endangered wildlife and warn that a continuous wall could devastate many species. [f](#) [t](#)

BY **KIAH COLLIER** AND **NEENA SATIJA** MARCH 3, 2017 12:01 AM



Scott Nicol, co-chair of the Sierra Club's Borderlands Campaign, stands in front of the border fence in Hidalgo in far South Texas. This section, which sits atop a levee, runs between a national wildlife refuge and a local nature center.  Callie Richmond for The Texas Tribune

HIDALGO, Texas — Muddy handprints cover the rusty, iron posts on this section of border fence in far South Texas. The 18-foot-tall barrier, which runs between a national wildlife refuge and a local nature center, ends abruptly less than a mile down the road. Still, somebody clearly thought it was best to cross here.

“This is probably one of the most visible places they could have climbed,” Scott Nicol, co-chair of the Sierra Club's Borderlands Campaign, said before snapping photos of the handprints. “I don't know if they got caught or not, but they made it up and over for sure.”

There's been a lot of debate about how effective the Bush-era barrier has been at keeping out illegal crossers and drug smugglers. Some data indicates the barriers have encouraged people to cross in places where there isn't one. But the handprints show that a determined person can still easily scale it.



[Reveal](#)



The wall's toll on wildlife and human beings



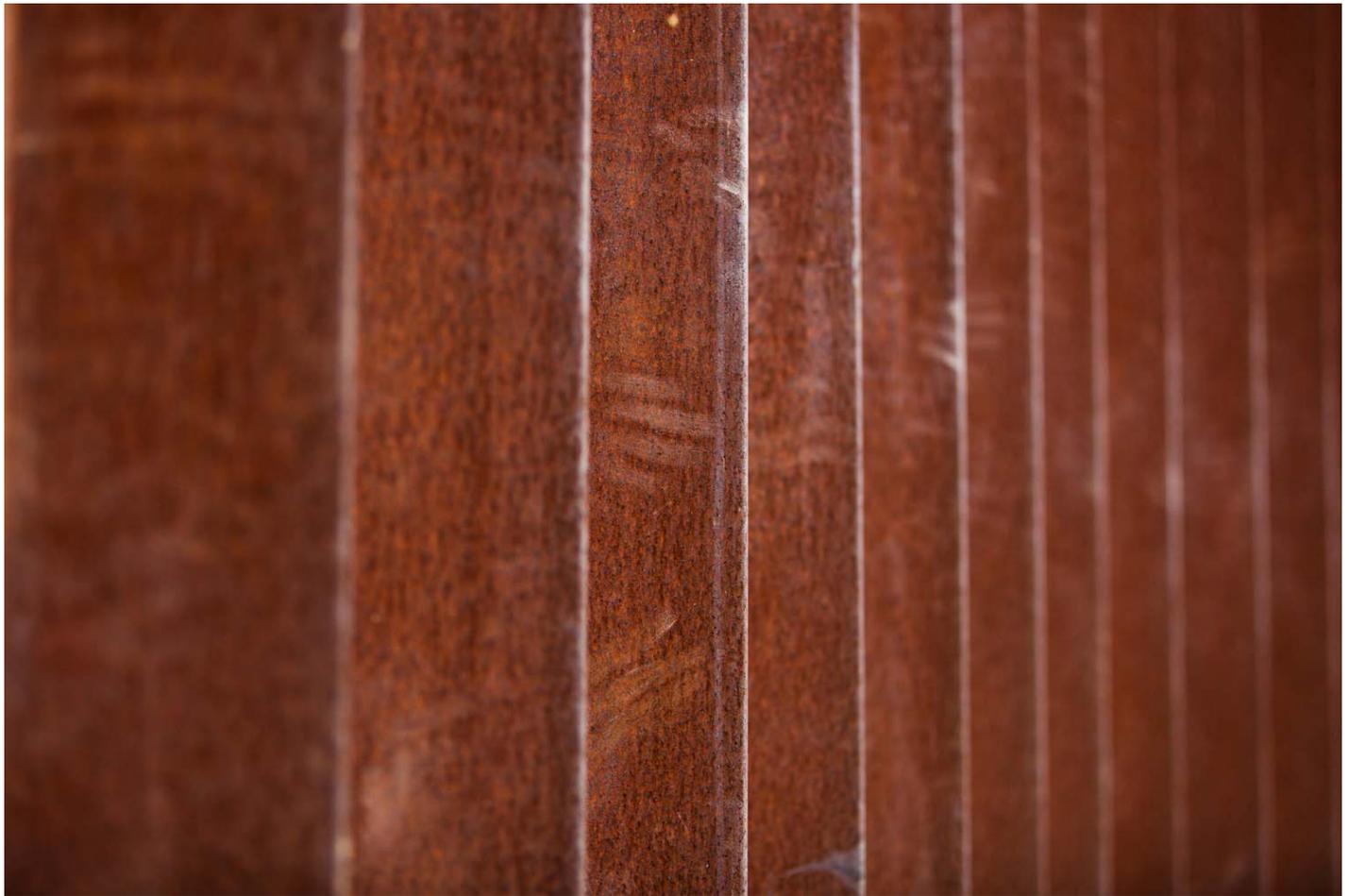
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What the border fence has kept out instead, according to environmentalists, scientists and local officials, is wildlife. And the people who have spent decades acquiring and restoring border habitat say that if President Donald Trump makes good on his promise to turn the border fence into a continuous, 40-foot concrete wall, the situation for wildlife along the border — one of the most biodiverse areas in North America — will only get worse.



Muddy handprints cover a section of border fence in far South Texas. 📷 Callie Richmond for The Texas Tribune

Right now, a mix of vehicle barriers and pedestrian fencing covers only about one-third of the nearly 2,000-mile U.S.-Mexico border. Even with all those gaps, experts say the barriers have made it harder for animals to find food, water and mates. Many of them, like jaguars, gray wolves and ocelots, are already endangered.

Aaron Flesch, a biologist at the University of Arizona, said most border animals are already squeezed into small, fragmented patches of habitat.

“If you just go and you cut movements off,” he said, “you can potentially destabilize these entire networks of population.”

Still, the impacts of the border fence on wildlife aren’t totally understood. That’s in large part because Congress let the U.S. Department of Homeland Security ignore all the environmental laws that would’ve required the agency to fully study how the barrier would affect wildlife.

Flesch and other scientists say the federal government also has made almost no research money available to support independent studies. Most of the studies that have been done

are limited in scope, but their findings are pretty clear: Impeding animal movements puts them on a faster path to extinction.

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Environmentalists and conservation groups say the border fence also has compromised the federal government's own efforts to protect those vulnerable species, pitting the U.S. Department of Homeland Security against the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The latter agency bought large tracts of land along the border decades ago and turned them into national wildlife refuges.

A spokeswoman for the Fish and Wildlife Service said the agency is not studying the environmental impacts of the proposed border wall and referred the Tribune to Customs and Border Patrol. That agency told the Tribune that “at this point we don't have anything to share.”

### **A fast-tracked fence**

When you envision the U.S.-Mexico border, you might think of a barren, dusty desert. But it actually ranks among the most biodiverse places in North America — particularly the Rio Grande Valley in South Texas. The Valley is home to some of the last remaining tracts of sabal palm forest in the country — a lush, subtropical ecosystem that is prime habitat for an endangered wild cat called the ocelot.

Two major migratory bird paths also converge in the region, and several tropical bird species there can't be found anywhere else in the United States. More than 100 other endangered species may be impacted by construction of a wall along the U.S.-Mexico border, according to an analysis of U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service data.

During his first presidential run, Obama vowed to review Bush's directive to build the fence — which was still under construction when he took office — in part due to potential environmental impacts. That never happened, even after a presidential advisory committee urged him to study the issue before Homeland Security installed any more barrier segments.

Decades-old laws like the Endangered Species Act often tie up major federal projects for decades or thwart them altogether, but a 2005 security and immigration law that Congress passed gave Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff the power to waive all those regulations — which he did in 2008.

The existing border fence went up in just a few years. That left scientists scrambling to measure the impacts themselves — racing to try to measure animal movements before the fence was installed so they could compare them to what happened afterward.



A group of Wisconsinites on the lookout for birds and other wildlife at Resaca de la Palma State Park and World Birding Center in the Rio Grande Valley. The region is one of the preeminent birding locales in the United States. 📷 Callie Richmond for The Texas Tribune

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Because the wall went up so quickly, “We didn’t have any good environmental studies of this area to establish a baseline,” said Laura Huffman, director of the Nature Conservancy’s Texas office. As a result, “it’s hard to comment on where we are today. And there was a lot of concern about that.”

## The studies

At the 18-foot pedestrian fence in Hidalgo, the posts are positioned less than 2 inches apart — far too narrow for even small critters to squeeze through. Flesch’s research found that the fence also blocks the threatened pygmy owl, which can only fly a few feet above the ground.

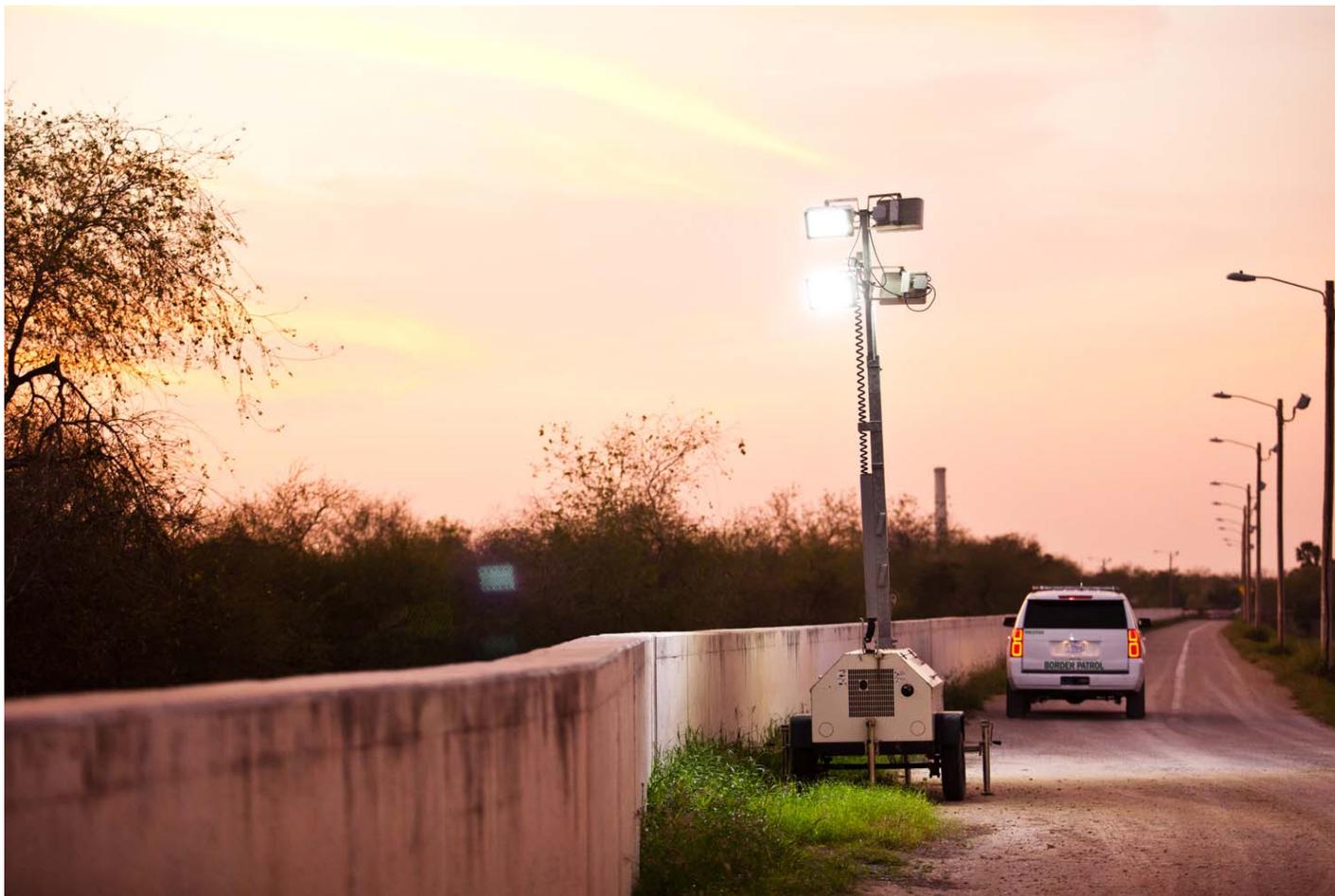


The Nature Conservancy's Southmost Preserve in far South Texas is home to some of the last remaining stands of sabal palm forest in the country. The lush, subtropical ecosystem — prime habitat for endangered wild cats like the ocelot and jaguarundi — once flourished in the region but has been almost totally cleared for agriculture or urban development. 📷 Callie Richmond for The Texas Tribune

Jesse Lasky, a biologist at Penn State University who studied the impacts of the fence on mammals, reptiles and amphibians, found that the U.S.-Mexico barrier reduced the range for some species by as much as 75 percent. Impacts were particularly acute on smaller populations of wildlife that occur in more specialized habitats like the endangered jaguarundi — another small wild cat.

“Mountain lions, jaguars, bobcats, javelinas, big horned sheep, deer, black bears — those animals often move far to find what they need,” he said, adding that a hardened border wall like the one Trump is proposing would be “substantially more threatening.”

Another study conducted in Arizona, published in 2014, used motion-sensitive cameras to monitor animal — and human — movement along the border. The researchers found that pumas and hog-nosed coons, or “coati,” were more likely to appear in places without a barrier. But human crossers appeared in equal numbers whether there was a barrier or not.



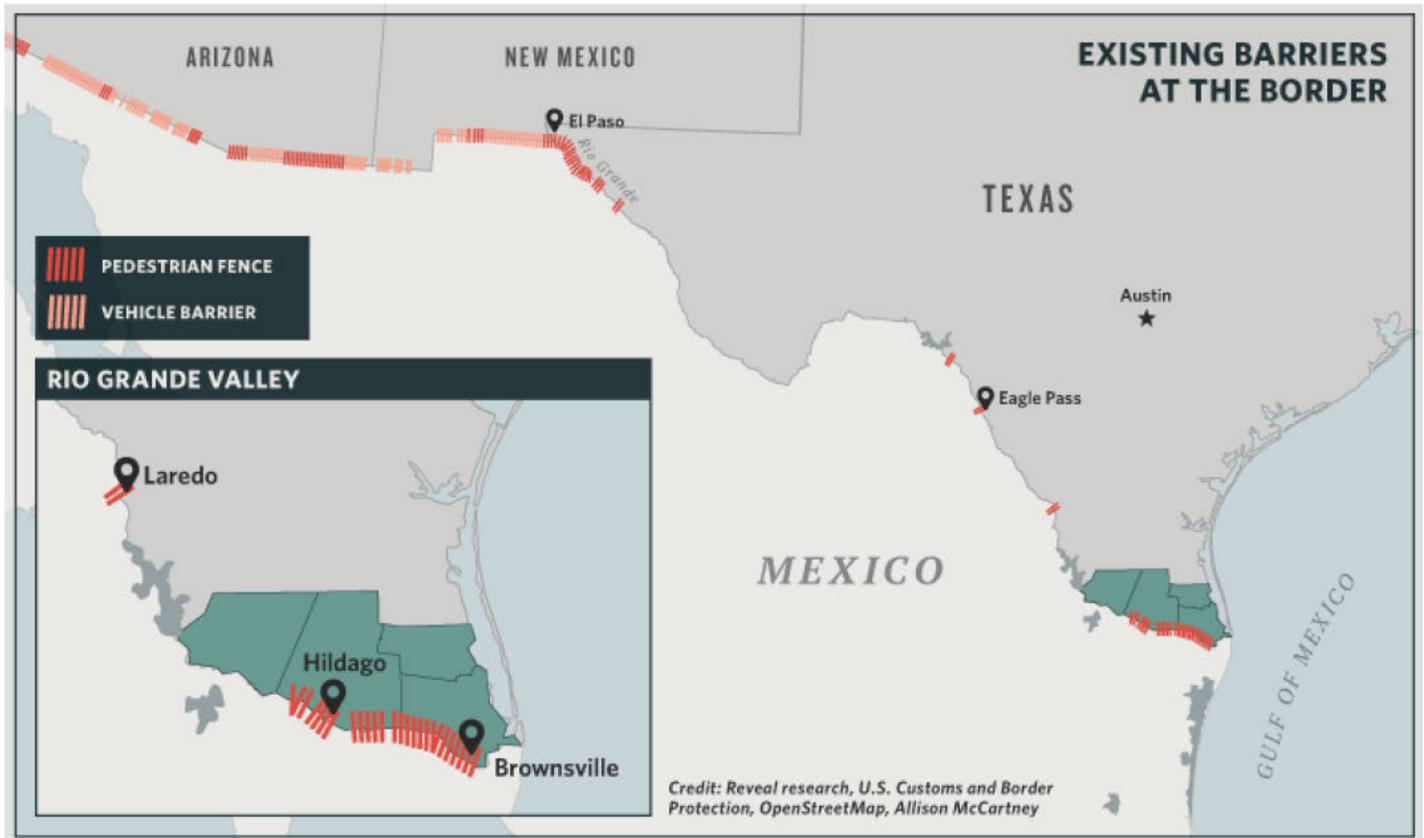
At sunset, a Customs and Border Patrol agent places noisy, generator-powered floodlights along a levee that ties into a segment of border fence in Hidalgo, Texas. 📷 Callie Richmond for The Texas Tribune

Constant noise and traffic from Border Patrol and other law enforcement activity is another threat to border wildlife, studies found. Even in areas where gaps in the fence could allow animals to get through, there are wide-open gravel roads constantly patrolled by border agents. At dusk, agents often set up mobile, generator-powered floodlights. That activity has steadily increased as border enforcement budgets have soared.

Flesch, the Arizona biologist, says all the gaps in the fence have definitely lessened environmental impacts; that's especially true in Texas, where there is only 110 miles of it. Black bears, for example, have been able to continue their recent comeback in the Lone Star State after being hunted to near extinction, and even a few jaguars — more prevalent in Mexico — have been spotted in the United States in recent years.

Free movement of wildlife is especially important after droughts or natural disasters that can wipe out subpopulations, Flesch said.

“The only species we know that's going to make it through the wall are people,” he added.

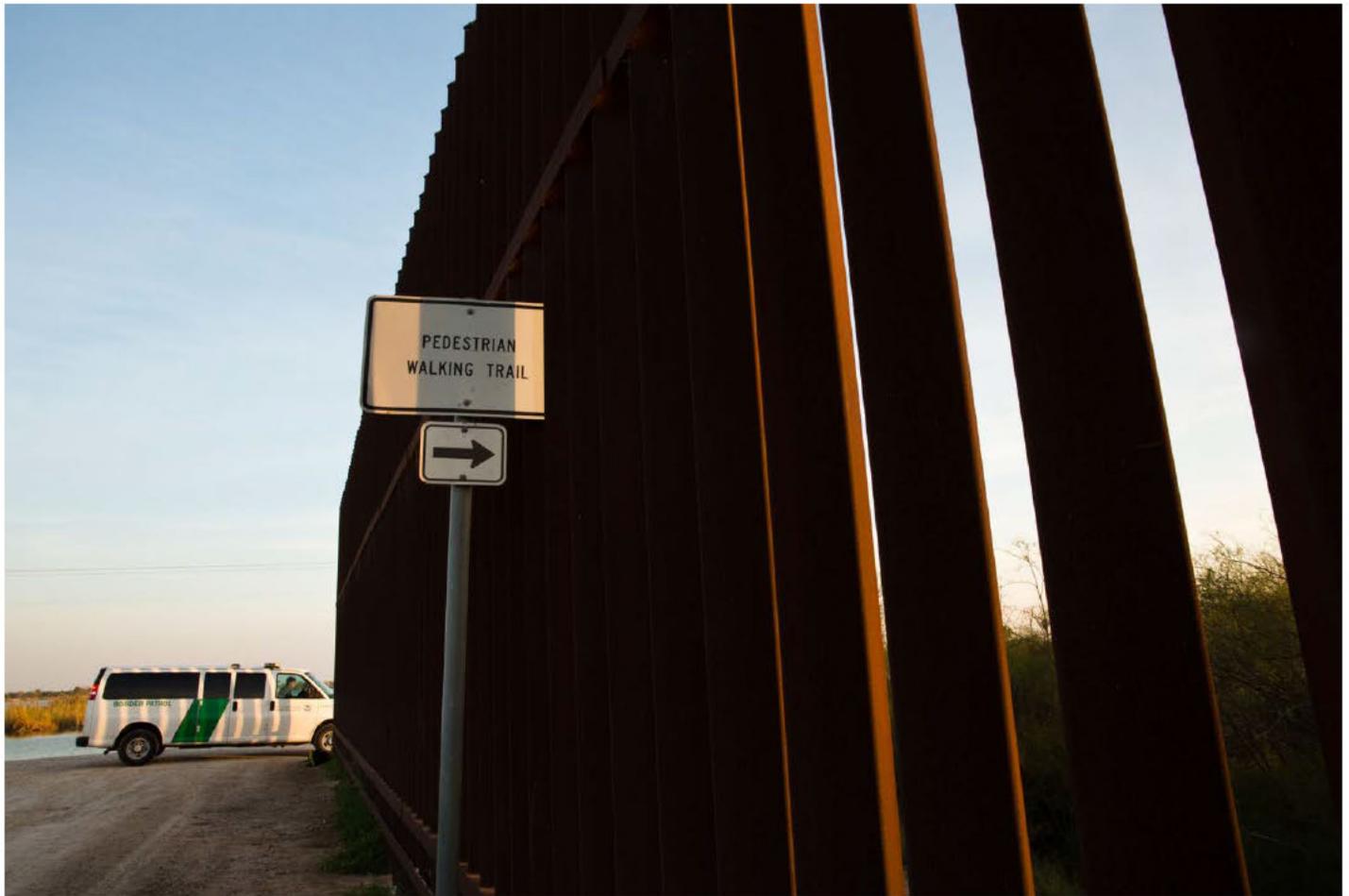


Emily Albracht

### Competing agendas

For more than 70 years, state and federal government and conservation groups have been buying up land along the border to preserve habitat for endangered animals. Now, much of that same land is bisected by the border fence.

The section of the fence in Hidalgo is one of the clearest indications of those competing agendas. It sits on the edge of the Lower Rio Grande National Wildlife Refuge, located on land that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service bought some 40 years ago. That means it's federal property — so it became an easy target decades later when the Department of Homeland Security was looking for land to build the border fence.



A section of border fence in Hidalgo, which runs between a national wildlife refuge and a local nature center, ends abruptly when federal land stops. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife started buying land along the U.S.-Mexico border more than 70 years ago to preserve habitat for threatened species. Now, much of that same land is bisected by the border fence. 📷 Callie Richmond for The Texas Tribune

In testimony to Congress in 2008, the former manager of that wildlife refuge, Ken Merritt, said the land “was thought of somewhat like low-hanging fruit.” That phrase had appeared in a Homeland Security PowerPoint presentation the previous year, referring to land the federal government already owned and therefore wouldn’t have to condemn to build the fence. (Merritt, who worked at the agency for 31 years, was forced into early retirement after refusing to sign off on the border fence plan.)

Ygnacio Garza, a former Brownsville mayor and chairman of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission, summed it up this way: “You’ve spent money to build this environmental corridor, and now you’re gonna go right through the middle of it and put up a wall.”

The parks and wildlife commission, which also has spent decades acquiring land along the border to protect habitat, rebelled against the Bush administration’s border fence plan, too. According to a 2008 report in the Austin American-Statesman, park commissioners voted to reject an offer from the federal government to donate \$105,000 to a nonprofit land

trust in exchange for more than 2 acres of a state-owned wildlife management area where it wanted to build part of the fence.

"Construction of a border fence has impacts to fish and wildlife resources that could not adequately be compensated for by the offer of compensation," a department staffer said at the time.

But the state ultimately lost that battle. The federal government condemned the property, a Texas Parks and Wildlife Department spokesman said.

The federal government did do some things to try to help endangered species when it built the border fence, including rerouting some sections. At a segment near Brownsville that runs through a private nature preserve, there are small openings at the base of the fence every 500 feet or so meant to let small wild cats through — particularly the ocelot, whose numbers have dwindled to fewer than 100 in the United States.

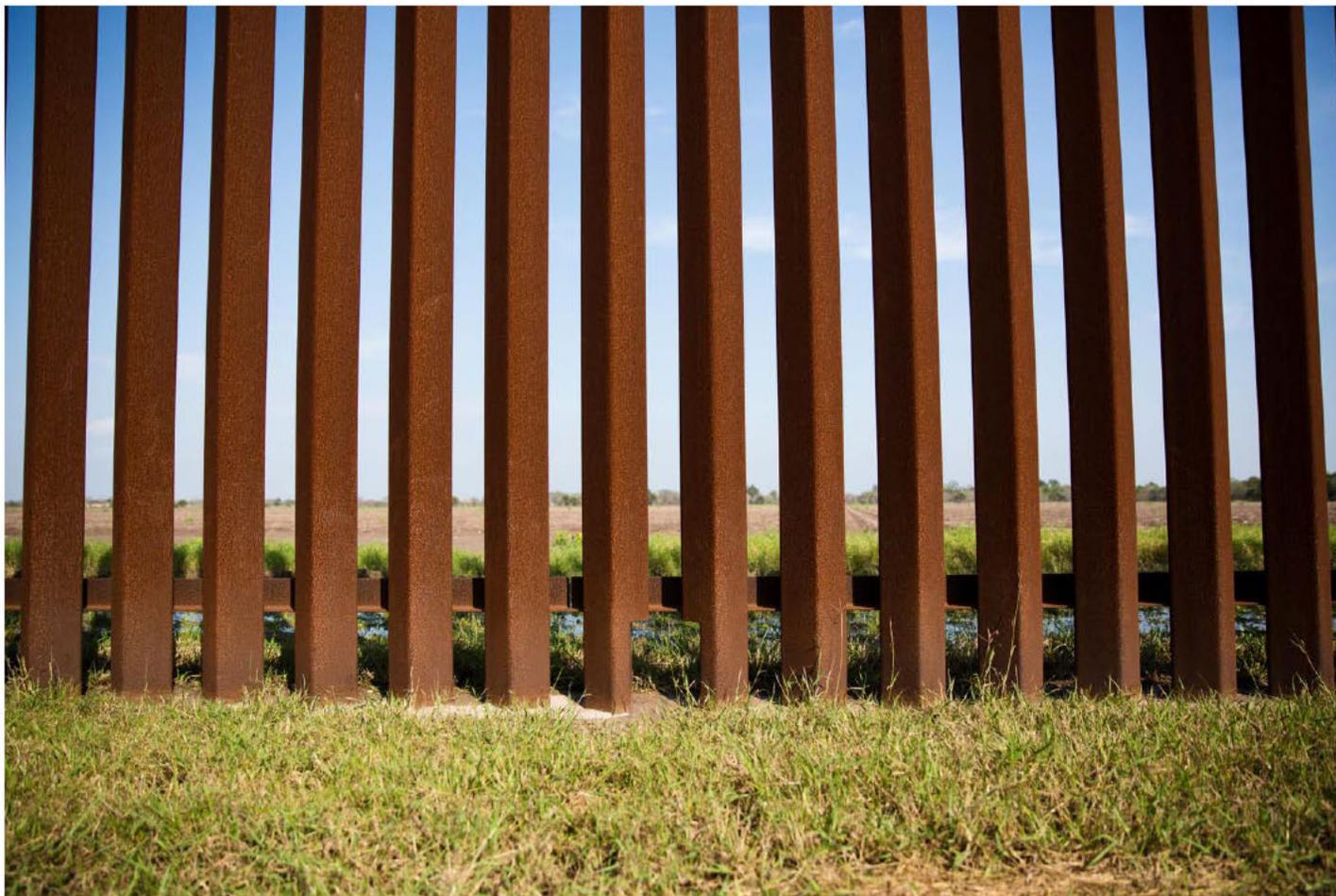
Sonia Najera, grasslands manager for the Nature Conservancy, calls the openings "cat holes." They're the size of a piece of printer paper. She's never seen an animal actually use one.

How are cats, or any other animals, supposed to find them?

"That's a good question," Najera said.



Ygnacio Garza, a former Brownsville mayor and chairman of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission, at his office in Brownsville, Texas. "You've spent money to build this environmental corridor, and now you're gonna go right through the middle of it and put up a wall," he says. 📷 Callie Richmond for The Texas Tribune



A small opening at the base of the border fence in Brownsville is meant to let small, endangered wild cats like the ocelot through. The “cat holes,” which are the size of a piece of printer paper, appear every 500 feet or so. 📷 Callie Richmond for The Texas Tribune

*This story is a collaboration between The Texas Tribune and [Reveal](#), a public radio show and podcast from The Center for Investigative Reporting and PRX.*

*Disclosure: The Nature Conservancy and Texas Parks and Wildlife Department have been financial supporters of The Texas Tribune. A complete list of Tribune donors and sponsors is available [here](#).*

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Years after well explosion, Texas family still waiting for answers from agency

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Scientists say Trump's border wall would devastate wildlife habitat

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Trump water directive cheered by ranchers, blasted by environmentalists

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The Q&A: Meghan Hope

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The Bookshelf: March 8, 2017

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## The Water Calendar

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Meadows Center to relaunch wetlands guided tour

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Texas State team to help with endangered lizard study

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Panel discusses protecting watersheds at local level

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Trump administration moves to limit Clean Water Act

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California aquifers draining land's water storage capacity

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Water utilities look to "big data" to stretch resources

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Data App: Track Texas Reservoir Levels

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Total Messages in label:672 (227 conversations)

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## Conversation Contents

**Fwd: Media Inquiry**

**Attachments:**

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/200. Fwd: Media Inquiry/4.1 image001.png  
/200. Fwd: Media Inquiry/5.1 image001.png

**"Winton, Bryan" <bryan\_winton@fws.gov>**

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**From:** "Winton, Bryan" <bryan\_winton@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue Mar 07 2017 08:07:27 GMT-0700 (MST)  
**To:** Beth Ullenberg <beth\_ullenberg@fws.gov>  
**CC:** Rob Jess <robert\_jess@fws.gov>, Sonny Perez <sonny\_perez@fws.gov>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Media Inquiry  
**Attachments:** image001.png

Beth:  
Would you like to follow up with this news reporter? Let me know if you need any information to provide her. I'm in all week.  
Thanks  
bryan

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**From:** **Garcia, Norma (NBCUniversal)** <[nxgarcia@telemundo.com](mailto:nxgarcia@telemundo.com)>  
**Date:** Mon, Mar 6, 2017 at 11:12 PM  
**Subject:** Media Inquiry  
**To:** "[bryan\\_winton@fws.gov](mailto:bryan_winton@fws.gov)" <[bryan\\_winton@fws.gov](mailto:bryan_winton@fws.gov)>

Mr. Winton,

I'm a reporter with Telemundo 39 in Dallas-Fort Worth working on a news piece regarding the impact of the proposed border wall on the environment. I read on a publication by UT Schools of Law that the Lower Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuge would be among the entities deeply impacted by such construction. Is that still the case? I am planning a trip to the border in the next few weeks and I thought I would reach out to you to get a better understanding on the issue. Would you or anyone in your staff be available for an interview, preferably in Spanish and are you at liberty to provide a tour of the refuge?

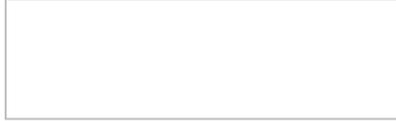
Thank you,

Norma García

News Anchor & Host

Telemundo 39

[norma.garcia@nbcuni.com](mailto:norma.garcia@nbcuni.com)



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Bryan R. Winton, Refuge Manager  
Lower Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuge  
3325 Green Jay Road  
Alamo, Texas 78516  
(956) 784-7521 office; (956) 874-4304 cell

**"Ullenberg, Beth" <[beth\\_ullenberg@fws.gov](mailto:beth_ullenberg@fws.gov)>**

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**From:** "Ullenberg, Beth" <[beth\\_ullenberg@fws.gov](mailto:beth_ullenberg@fws.gov)>  
**Sent:** Tue Mar 07 2017 08:08:36 GMT-0700 (MST)  
**To:** "Winton, Bryan" <[bryan\\_winton@fws.gov](mailto:bryan_winton@fws.gov)>  
**CC:** Rob Jess <[robert\\_jess@fws.gov](mailto:robert_jess@fws.gov)>, Sonny Perez <[sonny\\_perez@fws.gov](mailto:sonny_perez@fws.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: Media Inquiry  
**Attachments:** image001.png

Thanks Bryan. Yes, I will respond to her.

Beth Ullenberg, External Affairs  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Southwest Region  
P.O. Box 1306  
Dennis Chavez Federal Building  
Albuquerque, NM 87103  
505-248-6638 office  
505-414-3815 mobile

"The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is, working with others, to conserve, protect, and enhance fish, wildlife and plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people"

On Tue, Mar 7, 2017 at 8:07 AM, Winton, Bryan <[bryan\\_winton@fws.gov](mailto:bryan_winton@fws.gov)> wrote:

Beth:

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Thanks

bryan

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Date: Mon, Mar 6, 2017 at 11:12 PM

Subject: Media Inquiry

To: "[bryan\\_winton@fws.gov](mailto:bryan_winton@fws.gov)" <[bryan\\_winton@fws.gov](mailto:bryan_winton@fws.gov)>

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**From:** "Winton, Bryan" <[bryan\\_winton@fws.gov](mailto:bryan_winton@fws.gov)>

**Sent:** Tue Mar 07 2017 08:09:42 GMT-0700 (MST)  
**To:** Gisela Chapa <gisela\_chapa@fws.gov>  
**CC:** Rob Jess <robert\_jess@fws.gov>, Sonny Perez <sonny\_perez@fws.gov>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Media Inquiry  
**Attachments:** image001.png

Gisela:

If Beth gives us the go-ahead to do an interview, which I suspect she will not, they prefer we provide someone who speaks Spanish. That would likely mean we would need you to do the interview. Stay tuned! I'll copy you on all the correspondence with Beth from here out.  
bryan

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

From: **Winton, Bryan** <[bryan\\_winton@fws.gov](mailto:bryan_winton@fws.gov)>  
Date: Tue, Mar 7, 2017 at 9:07 AM  
Subject: Fwd: Media Inquiry  
To: Beth Ullenberg <[beth\\_ullenberg@fws.gov](mailto:beth_ullenberg@fws.gov)>  
Cc: Rob Jess <[robert\\_jess@fws.gov](mailto:robert_jess@fws.gov)>, Sonny Perez <[sonny\\_perez@fws.gov](mailto:sonny_perez@fws.gov)>

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**"Ullenberg, Beth" <beth\_ullenberg@fws.gov>**

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**From:** "Ullenberg, Beth" <beth\_ullenberg@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue Mar 07 2017 08:52:33 GMT-0700 (MST)  
**To:** nxgarcia@telemundo.com  
**CC:** Bryan Winton <bryan\_winton@fws.gov>, cpuckett@usgs.gov  
**BCC:** robert\_jess@fws.gov  
**Subject:** Fwd: Media Inquiry  
**Attachments:** image001.png

Thank you for your inquiry. Please see the following U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service statement.

Any assessment of the potential impacts of a US-Mexico border wall on threatened and endangered wildlife would be made through the formal consultation process under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, once initiated by the federal action agency involved. We have not received a request for such a consultation from any agency and would not make speculative assessments outside of that process.

We currently do not have staff available for interviews. For more information on research and published studies on barrier impacts to wildlife, please contact Catherine Puckett at U.S. Geological Survey.  
Contact: [cpuckett@usgs.gov](mailto:cpuckett@usgs.gov) or 352-377-2469

For background information only:

Please be aware that an erroneous report on evaluating border impacts attributed to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) has surfaced. The Service has produced no such evaluation. This reported upon "evaluation" was merely a journalist's tally of species present along the U.S.-Mexico border that was downloaded utilizing the Service's online iPAC database tool.

Best Regards,

Beth Ullenberg, External Affairs  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Southwest Region  
P.O. Box 1306  
Dennis Chavez Federal Building  
Albuquerque, NM 87103  
505-248-6638 office  
505-414-3815 mobile

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**From:** "Winton, Bryan" <bryan\_winton@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue Mar 07 2017 09:17:57 GMT-0700 (MST)  
**To:** Rob Jess <robert\_jess@fws.gov>, Sonny Perez <sonny\_perez@fws.gov>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Media Inquiry  
**Attachments:** image001.png

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Date: Mon, Mar 6, 2017 at 11:12 PM  
Subject: Media Inquiry  
To: "[bryan\\_winton@fws.gov](mailto:bryan_winton@fws.gov)" <[bryan\\_winton@fws.gov](mailto:bryan_winton@fws.gov)>

Mr. Winton,

I'm a reporter with Telemundo 39 in Dallas-Fort Worth working on a news piece regarding the impact of the proposed border wall on the environment. I read on a publication by UT Schools of Law that the Lower Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuge would be among the entities deeply impacted by such construction. Is that still the case? I am planning a trip to the border in the next few weeks and I thought I would reach out to you to get a better understanding on the issue. Would you or anyone in your staff be available for an interview, preferably in Spanish and are you at liberty to provide a tour of the refuge?

Thank you,

Norma García

News Anchor & Host

Telemundo 39

[norma.garcia@nbcuni.com](mailto:norma.garcia@nbcuni.com)



--

Bryan R. Winton, Refuge Manager  
Lower Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuge  
3325 Green Jay Road  
Alamo, Texas 78516  
(956) 784-7521 office; (956) 874-4304 cell

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Bryan R. Winton, Refuge Manager  
Lower Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuge  
3325 Green Jay Road  
Alamo, Texas 78516  
(956) 784-7521 office; (956) 874-4304 cell

**Readout from [follow-up] Mexico Coordination Meeting  
February 8, 2017 at 2:00 pm EST in the Kiowa Room (MIB)**

**Attendees**

In-person

Julie Fleming (BSEE)  
Sarah Swanson (OWF)  
Kendra Russell (BOR)  
Tim McCune (BOEM)  
David Downes (OIA)  
Ethan Taylor (OIA)

By Phone

Ken Richkus (FWS-Migratory Birds)  
Matthew Bendele (FWS-OLE)  
Melida Tajbakhsh (FWS-DIC)  
Octavia Conerly (OSMRE)  
Janet Whitlock (OEPC)  
Jon Putnam (NPS)  
Colin Strylowski (BLM)

**Readout**

Issue: Ken Richkus expressed concern that his program has had to cancel several of their recent migratory bird surveys in Mexico due to safety and security considerations. Apparently, certain Regional Security Officers (RSOs) at Consulates across Mexico are denying (rejecting) some electronic country clearance (eCC) requests, depending on the location of the survey(s).

NPS echoed Ken's concerns, citing recent trips to Mexico [to visit Sister Parks] that had to be canceled due to new(?) Embassy requirements that USG travelers use [cost-prohibitive] armored vehicles and satellite phones at all times while in Mexico.

Melida Tajbakhsh reported that the next Trilateral Committee [for Wildlife and Ecosystem Conservation and Management] meeting is scheduled to take place in Tijuana, Mexico on May 22-25, 2017. However, due to security concerns, Mexico may need to change the venue.

Action: Ethan Taylor will put Ken in touch with the Desk Officer at Main State (and/or possibly Post) to see if they can better anticipate what region(s) in Mexico might be off-limits to USG travelers at any given time. Ethan will also seek clarification on State's requirement(?) to travel in an Embassy-provided armored vehicle with a satellite phone.

Issue: Julie Fleming asked a question about the coordination role (if any) that OIRA will be playing [during the new Administration] regarding US-MX regulatory cooperation. She

referenced an interagency regulatory cooperation meeting that OIRA convened on January 24 that neither DOI nor DOE was invited to.

Action: OIA and BSEE had a follow-up call with DOE on February 9 to discuss possible next steps. It was decided that we would continue “business as usual” productive cooperation with our working-level GOM counterparts until/unless we hear additional/different guidance from OIRA.

Issue: Jon Putnam expressed frustration that it has been nearly impossible for NPS to donate surplus property/equipment (e.g. uniforms, firefighting equipment, radios, etc.) to their Mexican counterparts.

Action: This has been an ongoing/recurring challenge for NPS and others. DOI will continue to explore possible ways to donate much-needed surplus equipment to overseas partners, recognizing the limitations under existing property management rules. The Diplomatic Pouch *could* be a short-term solution in some cases.

Issue: The High Threat Security Overseas Seminar (HTSOS) training, provided by the State Department’s Foreign Service Institute (FSI), can be a challenge to take/navigate at times. Guidelines on who must take the HTSOS training – and for what region(s) of Mexico – isn’t always clear. [Note: Matthew Bendele is on the waiting list to take the longer (five-day) Advanced Security Overseas Seminar. He expects to arrive at Post in early June.]

Action: Ethan Taylor committed to follow-up with FSI to see if they could offer a periodic HTSOS [group] training(s) for DOI travelers.

Issue: BOEM is interested in purchasing [relatively expensive] geologic and geophysical data from Mexico’s National Hydrocarbons Commission (CNH) via the “E Five Cinco Program.” BOEM was curious to know if other DOI Bureaus/Offices have had any experience handling similar international transactions.

Action: No other DOI Bureaus/Offices reported having had a similar experience.

### **Other/Miscellaneous**

Kendra Russell provided the working group with a brief update on the history and current status of the Minute 32x (Colorado River) negotiations with Mexico.

Jon Putnam asked if OIA (and/or others) had any additional information/guidance on the proposed border wall. David Downes responded by saying that to date OIA had not been asked to provide any information [by the new leadership team] regarding DOI activity along the US-MX border.

### **Next Steps**

The working group agreed that quarterly Mexico coordination meetings would be useful. Ethan Taylor will continue to serve as the lead for these meetings.

The working group agreed that it would be useful to create some sort of shared Google document that highlights up-to-date (i.e. current) DOI engagement/cooperation with Mexico. Ethan committed to creating the document and sharing it with the working group soonest.

# **Label: "Border Fence"**

**Created by:robert\_jess@fws.gov**

Total Messages in label:672 (227 conversations)

Created: 09-29-2017 at 12:42 PM

## Conversation Contents

**Fwd: Readout from follow-up Mexico coordination meeting (Feb. 8)**

**Attachments:**

/206. Fwd: Readout from follow-up Mexico coordination meeting (Feb. 8)/1.1  
DRAFT\_Readout from Feb 8 Mexico Coordination Meeting\_02.15.17.docx  
/206. Fwd: Readout from follow-up Mexico coordination meeting (Feb. 8)/2.1  
DRAFT\_Readout from Feb 8 Mexico Coordination Meeting\_02.15.17.docx

**"Andrew, Jonathan" <[jonathan\\_andrew@ios.doi.gov](mailto:jonathan_andrew@ios.doi.gov)>**

---

**From:** "Andrew, Jonathan" <[jonathan\\_andrew@ios.doi.gov](mailto:jonathan_andrew@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Sent:** Fri Feb 17 2017 07:51:23 GMT-0700 (MST)  
Julie Decker <[jdecker@blm.gov](mailto:jdecker@blm.gov)>, Ernesto Reyes <[ernesto\\_reyes@fws.gov](mailto:ernesto_reyes@fws.gov)>, Andy Yuen <[andy\\_yuen@fws.gov](mailto:andy_yuen@fws.gov)>, Mendel Stuart <[mendel\\_stewart@fws.gov](mailto:mendel_stewart@fws.gov)>, Patrick Gower <[Patrick\\_Gower@fws.gov](mailto:Patrick_Gower@fws.gov)>, Karen Goebel <[Karen\\_Goebel@fws.gov](mailto:Karen_Goebel@fws.gov)>, Sid Slone <[Sid\\_Slone@fws.gov](mailto:Sid_Slone@fws.gov)>, Brent Range <[brent\\_range@nps.gov](mailto:brent_range@nps.gov)>, Bill Radke <[bill\\_radke@fws.gov](mailto:bill_radke@fws.gov)>, Allen Etheridge <[Allen\\_S\\_Etheridge@nps.gov](mailto:Allen_S_Etheridge@nps.gov)>, Robert Jess <[robert\\_jess@fws.gov](mailto:robert_jess@fws.gov)>, Patricia Zenone <[patricia\\_zenone@fws.gov](mailto:patricia_zenone@fws.gov)>, Erin Block <[erin@midcurrent.com](mailto:erin@midcurrent.com)>, Scott Richardson <[scott\\_richardson@fws.gov](mailto:scott_richardson@fws.gov)>  
**To:** Fwd: Readout from follow-up Mexico coordination meeting (Feb. 8)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Readout from follow-up Mexico coordination meeting (Feb. 8)  
**Attachments:** DRAFT\_Readout from Feb 8 Mexico Coordination Meeting\_02.15.17.docx

This may be of interest- feel free to send on as appropriate.

Ethan is a great resource for work in Mexico.

Jon

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

**From:** Taylor, Ethan <[ethan\\_taylor@ios.doi.gov](mailto:ethan_taylor@ios.doi.gov)>

**Date:** Wed, Feb 15, 2017 at 3:00 PM

**Subject:** Readout from follow-up Mexico coordination meeting (Feb. 8)

**To:** Amanda\_Gonzales <[amanda\\_gonzales@fws.gov](mailto:amanda_gonzales@fws.gov)>, Brad Bortner <[brad\\_bortner@fws.gov](mailto:brad_bortner@fws.gov)>, Brooke Hobbie <[brooke\\_hobbie@ios.doi.gov](mailto:brooke_hobbie@ios.doi.gov)>, Bryan Arroyo <[bryan\\_arroyo@fws.gov](mailto:bryan_arroyo@fws.gov)>, Colin Strylowski <[cstrylowski@blm.gov](mailto:cstrylowski@blm.gov)>, Craig Hoover <[craig\\_hoover@fws.gov](mailto:craig_hoover@fws.gov)>, Cynthia Perera <[cynthia\\_perera@ios.doi.gov](mailto:cynthia_perera@ios.doi.gov)>, David R Downes <[david\\_downes@ios.doi.gov](mailto:david_downes@ios.doi.gov)>, Elizabeth Torres <[elizabeth.torres@bsee.gov](mailto:elizabeth.torres@bsee.gov)>, Emily Lindow <[emily.lindow@boem.gov](mailto:emily.lindow@boem.gov)>, Eugene Bendele <[eugene\\_bendele@fws.gov](mailto:eugene_bendele@fws.gov)>, Gloria Bell <[gloria\\_bell@fws.gov](mailto:gloria_bell@fws.gov)>, Hilary Smith <[hilary\\_smith@ios.doi.gov](mailto:hilary_smith@ios.doi.gov)>, Ira New Breast <[ira.newbreast@bia.gov](mailto:ira.newbreast@bia.gov)>, Jamie Reaser <[jamie\\_reaser@ios.doi.gov](mailto:jamie_reaser@ios.doi.gov)>, Janet Whitlock <[janet\\_whitlock@ios.doi.gov](mailto:janet_whitlock@ios.doi.gov)>, Jenna Sloan <[jenna\\_m\\_sloan@ios.doi.gov](mailto:jenna_m_sloan@ios.doi.gov)>, Jonathan Andrew <[jonathan\\_andrew@ios.doi.gov](mailto:jonathan_andrew@ios.doi.gov)>, Jonathan Putnam <[jonathan\\_putnam@nps.gov](mailto:jonathan_putnam@nps.gov)>, Julie Fleming <[julie.fleming@bsee.gov](mailto:julie.fleming@bsee.gov)>, Karen M Senhadji <[karen\\_senhadji@ios.doi.gov](mailto:karen_senhadji@ios.doi.gov)>, Ken Richkus <[ken\\_richkus@fws.gov](mailto:ken_richkus@fws.gov)>,

Kendra Russell <[krussell@usbr.gov](mailto:krussell@usbr.gov)>, Kristin Merony <[kristin\\_merony@ios.doi.gov](mailto:kristin_merony@ios.doi.gov)>, Kristine Smith <[ktsmith@usbr.gov](mailto:ktsmith@usbr.gov)>, Kristy Bibb <[kristy\\_bibb@ios.doi.gov](mailto:kristy_bibb@ios.doi.gov)>, Mark Fleming <[mark.fleming@bsee.gov](mailto:mark.fleming@bsee.gov)>, Matthew Duchesne <[mduchesne@usbr.gov](mailto:mduchesne@usbr.gov)>, Melida Tajbakhsh <[melida\\_tajbakhsh@fws.gov](mailto:melida_tajbakhsh@fws.gov)>, Melissa Whitlock <[melissa.whitlock@bsee.gov](mailto:melissa.whitlock@bsee.gov)>, Olivia Sierra <[olivia\\_sierra@ios.doi.gov](mailto:olivia_sierra@ios.doi.gov)>, Rosemarie Gnam <[rosemarie\\_gnam@fws.gov](mailto:rosemarie_gnam@fws.gov)>, Ryan Close <[ryan\\_close@ios.doi.gov](mailto:ryan_close@ios.doi.gov)>, Sarah Abdelrahim <[sarah\\_abdelrahim@ios.doi.gov](mailto:sarah_abdelrahim@ios.doi.gov)>, Stanley Burgiel <[stanley\\_burgiel@ios.doi.gov](mailto:stanley_burgiel@ios.doi.gov)>, Stephen Morris <[stephen\\_morris@nps.gov](mailto:stephen_morris@nps.gov)>, Stephen Spencer <[stephen\\_spencer@ios.doi.gov](mailto:stephen_spencer@ios.doi.gov)>, Sterling Rideout <[srideout@osmre.gov](mailto:srideout@osmre.gov)>, Timothy McCune <[timothy.mccune@boem.gov](mailto:timothy.mccune@boem.gov)>, Treci Johnson <[treci.johnson@onrr.gov](mailto:treci.johnson@onrr.gov)>, Victor Heilweil <[heilweil@usgs.gov](mailto:heilweil@usgs.gov)>, Victor Labson <[vlabson@usgs.gov](mailto:vlabson@usgs.gov)>, [kasandra\\_roach@ios.doi.gov](mailto:kasandra_roach@ios.doi.gov), [tamika\\_wheeler@ios.doi.gov](mailto:tamika_wheeler@ios.doi.gov)

All,

Attached please find a draft readout from our follow-up Mexico coordination meeting on February 8. Please let us know if we missed anything.

Gracias.

Ethan Taylor  
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1849 C Street, NW  
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202-527-4085 (cell)  
[www.doi.gov/intl](http://www.doi.gov/intl)

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Jon Andrew  
Interagency Borderlands Coordinator  
Office of the Secretary  
Department of the Interior

202-208-7431  
202-320-0718 (cell)

**"Reyes, Ernesto" <[ernesto\\_reyes@fws.gov](mailto:ernesto_reyes@fws.gov)>**

---

**From:** "Reyes, Ernesto" <[ernesto\\_reyes@fws.gov](mailto:ernesto_reyes@fws.gov)>  
**Sent:** Tue Feb 21 2017 07:28:46 GMT-0700 (MST)  
**To:** "Ardizzone, Chuck" <[chuck\\_ardizzone@fws.gov](mailto:chuck_ardizzone@fws.gov)>, Dawn Whitehead <[dawn\\_gardiner@fws.gov](mailto:dawn_gardiner@fws.gov)>, Robert Jess <[robert\\_jess@fws.gov](mailto:robert_jess@fws.gov)>, Sonny Perez <[sonny\\_perez@fws.gov](mailto:sonny_perez@fws.gov)>, Bryan Winton <[bryan\\_winton@fws.gov](mailto:bryan_winton@fws.gov)>, Boyd Blihovde <[boyd\\_blihovde@fws.gov](mailto:boyd_blihovde@fws.gov)>, Mitch Sternberg <[mitch\\_sternberg@fws.gov](mailto:mitch_sternberg@fws.gov)>, "Paul Tashjian (via Google Drive)" <[paul\\_tashjian@fws.gov](mailto:paul_tashjian@fws.gov)>  
Fwd: Readout from follow-up Mexico coordination meeting (Feb.

**Subject:** 8)

**Attachments:** DRAFT\_Readout from Feb 8 Mexico Coordination Meeting\_02.15.17.docx

FYI. Travel to Mexico and no Border Wall info. given to DOI yet.

Ernesto

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

From: **Andrew, Jonathan** <[jonathan\\_andrew@ios.doi.gov](mailto:jonathan_andrew@ios.doi.gov)>

Date: Fri, Feb 17, 2017 at 8:51 AM

Subject: Fwd: Readout from follow-up Mexico coordination meeting (Feb. 8)

To: Julie Decker <[jdecker@blm.gov](mailto:jdecker@blm.gov)>, Ernesto Reyes <[ernesto\\_reyes@fws.gov](mailto:ernesto_reyes@fws.gov)>, Andy Yuen <[andy\\_yuen@fws.gov](mailto:andy_yuen@fws.gov)>, Mendel Stuart <[mendel\\_stewart@fws.gov](mailto:mendel_stewart@fws.gov)>, Patrick Gower <[Patrick\\_Gower@fws.gov](mailto:Patrick_Gower@fws.gov)>, Karen Goebel <[Karen\\_Goebel@fws.gov](mailto:Karen_Goebel@fws.gov)>, Sid Slone <[Sid\\_Slone@fws.gov](mailto:Sid_Slone@fws.gov)>, Brent Range <[brent\\_range@nps.gov](mailto:brent_range@nps.gov)>, Bill Radke <[bill\\_radke@fws.gov](mailto:bill_radke@fws.gov)>, Allen Etheridge <[Allen\\_S\\_Etheridge@nps.gov](mailto:Allen_S_Etheridge@nps.gov)>, Robert Jess <[robert\\_jess@fws.gov](mailto:robert_jess@fws.gov)>, Patricia Zenone <[patricia\\_zenone@fws.gov](mailto:patricia_zenone@fws.gov)>, Erin Block <[erin@midcurrent.com](mailto:erin@midcurrent.com)>, Scott Richardson <[scott\\_richardson@fws.gov](mailto:scott_richardson@fws.gov)>

This may be of interest- feel free to send on as appropriate.

Ethan is a great resource for work in Mexico.

Jon

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From: **Taylor, Ethan** <[ethan\\_taylor@ios.doi.gov](mailto:ethan_taylor@ios.doi.gov)>

Date: Wed, Feb 15, 2017 at 3:00 PM

Subject: Readout from follow-up Mexico coordination meeting (Feb. 8)

To: Amanda\_Gonzales <[amanda\\_gonzales@fws.gov](mailto:amanda_gonzales@fws.gov)>, Brad Bortner <[brad\\_bortner@fws.gov](mailto:brad_bortner@fws.gov)>, Brooke Hobbie <[brooke\\_hobbie@ios.doi.gov](mailto:brooke_hobbie@ios.doi.gov)>, Bryan Arroyo <[bryan\\_arroyo@fws.gov](mailto:bryan_arroyo@fws.gov)>, Colin Strylowski <[cstrylowski@blm.gov](mailto:cstrylowski@blm.gov)>, Craig\_Hoover <[craig\\_hoover@fws.gov](mailto:craig_hoover@fws.gov)>, Cynthia Perera <[cynthia\\_perera@ios.doi.gov](mailto:cynthia_perera@ios.doi.gov)>, David R Downes <[david\\_downes@ios.doi.gov](mailto:david_downes@ios.doi.gov)>, Elizabeth Torres <[elizabeth.torres@bsee.gov](mailto:elizabeth.torres@bsee.gov)>, Emily Lindow <[emily.lindow@boem.gov](mailto:emily.lindow@boem.gov)>, Eugene Bendele <[eugene\\_bendele@fws.gov](mailto:eugene_bendele@fws.gov)>, Gloria Bell <[gloria\\_bell@fws.gov](mailto:gloria_bell@fws.gov)>, Hilary Smith <[hilary\\_smith@ios.doi.gov](mailto:hilary_smith@ios.doi.gov)>, Ira New Breast <[ira.newbreast@bia.gov](mailto:ira.newbreast@bia.gov)>, Jamie Reaser <[jamie\\_reaser@ios.doi.gov](mailto:jamie_reaser@ios.doi.gov)>, Janet Whitlock <[janet\\_whitlock@ios.doi.gov](mailto:janet_whitlock@ios.doi.gov)>, Jenna Sloan <[jenna\\_m\\_sloan@ios.doi.gov](mailto:jenna_m_sloan@ios.doi.gov)>, Jonathan Andrew <[jonathan\\_andrew@ios.doi.gov](mailto:jonathan_andrew@ios.doi.gov)>, Jonathan Putnam <[jonathan\\_putnam@nps.gov](mailto:jonathan_putnam@nps.gov)>, Julie Fleming <[julie.fleming@bsee.gov](mailto:julie.fleming@bsee.gov)>, Karen M Senhadji <[karen\\_senhadji@ios.doi.gov](mailto:karen_senhadji@ios.doi.gov)>, Ken Richkus <[ken\\_richkus@fws.gov](mailto:ken_richkus@fws.gov)>, Kendra Russell <[krussell@usbr.gov](mailto:krussell@usbr.gov)>, Kristin Merony <[kristin\\_merony@ios.doi.gov](mailto:kristin_merony@ios.doi.gov)>, Kristine Smith <[ktsmith@usbr.gov](mailto:ktsmith@usbr.gov)>, Kristy Bibb <[kristy\\_bibb@ios.doi.gov](mailto:kristy_bibb@ios.doi.gov)>, Mark Fleming <[mark.fleming@bsee.gov](mailto:mark.fleming@bsee.gov)>, Matthew Duchesne <[mduchesne@usbr.gov](mailto:mduchesne@usbr.gov)>, Melida Tajbakhsh <[melida\\_tajbakhsh@fws.gov](mailto:melida_tajbakhsh@fws.gov)>, Melissa Whitlock <[melissa.whitlock@bsee.gov](mailto:melissa.whitlock@bsee.gov)>, Olivia Sierra <[olivia\\_sierra@ios.doi.gov](mailto:olivia_sierra@ios.doi.gov)>, Rosemarie Gnam <[rosemarie\\_gnam@fws.gov](mailto:rosemarie_gnam@fws.gov)>, Ryan Close <[ryan\\_close@ios.doi.gov](mailto:ryan_close@ios.doi.gov)>, Sarah Abdelrahim <[sarah\\_abdelrahim@ios.doi.gov](mailto:sarah_abdelrahim@ios.doi.gov)>, Stanley Burgiel <[stanley\\_burgiel@ios.doi.gov](mailto:stanley_burgiel@ios.doi.gov)>, Stephen Morris <[stephen\\_morris@nps.gov](mailto:stephen_morris@nps.gov)>, Stephen Spencer <[stephen\\_spencer@ios.doi.gov](mailto:stephen_spencer@ios.doi.gov)>, Sterling Rideout <[srideout@osmre.gov](mailto:srideout@osmre.gov)>, Timothy McCune <[timothy.mccune@boem.gov](mailto:timothy.mccune@boem.gov)>, Treci Johnson <[treci.johnson@onrr.gov](mailto:treci.johnson@onrr.gov)>, Victor Heilweil <[heilweil@usgs.gov](mailto:heilweil@usgs.gov)>, Victor Labson <[vlabson@usgs.gov](mailto:vlabson@usgs.gov)>, [kasandra\\_roach@ios.doi.gov](mailto:kasandra_roach@ios.doi.gov), [tamika\\_wheeler@ios.doi.gov](mailto:tamika_wheeler@ios.doi.gov)

All,

Attached please find a draft readout from our follow-up Mexico coordination meeting on February 8. Please let us know if we missed anything.

Gracias.

Ethan Taylor  
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Ernesto Reyes  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Texas DOI State Border Coordinator  
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# **Label: "Border Patrol/Border Patrol FOIA 2017 (2)"**

**Created by:bryan\_winton@fws.gov**

Total Messages in label:233 (49 conversations)

Created: 09-25-2017 at 06:32 AM

# Conversation Contents

Refuge Response/Concerns to CBP Correspondence dated 8-25-2017

**"Winton, Bryan" <bryan\_winton@fws.gov>**

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**From:** "Winton, Bryan" <bryan\_winton@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Wed Sep 20 2017 14:15:15 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** Rob Jess <robert\_jess@fws.gov>, Ernesto Reyes <ernesto\_reyes@fws.gov>  
**Subject:** Refuge Response/Concerns to CBP Correspondence dated 8-25-2017

Subj: Regarding 28 miles of proposed Border Wall (Hidalgo County) and 32 miles of proposed Bollard Fence (Starr County) in President's FY18 Budget

Details of Proposal: 150' enforcement zone; 20-30' Bollard Wall; 18' Levee Wall; Automated Gates (20-50' wide); Lighting; All-Weather Access Road; Surveillance Cameras...

Refuge Concerns:

1. Loss of Habitat - habitat is extremely limited in S. Texas; many T&E species; high biodiversity; already severely fragmented
2. Disturbance - enforcement zone will have improved road; will cause high speeds (public safety) and increased wildlife mortality
3. Air Quality - high speed vehicle traffic will increase dust for wildlife and visitors
4. Security - Border Wall in Hidalgo Co. will be built in segments. How will the refuge remain secure during construction and post construction. The public, bandits, smugglers, etc. will have improved access into Santa Ana NWR and LRGV NWR tracts during the interim construction until/unless the entire Hidalgo County wall segment is completed. After completion the same public will have access behind the wall (or segments) until the Border Wall "gates" are constructed. Initial Border Wall was built in 2007 (10 years ago) and only 1/2 of the gates have been installed to date.
5. Existing Border Activities - road dragging, creation of new trails and roads (by horses, ATV's, vehicles); ongoing/reoccurring trimming of vegetation; road improvements (disturbances); generator noise for lighting; turnover in agents causes repeat/ongoing problems with conservation measures/routine protection negotiations; gates routinely left open by agents (limits protection for refuge lands); 6 of 9 stations in RGV Sector operate on refuge lands (coordination nightmare until PLLA was established); high speed travel on refuge lands when sensors go off; groups are detected; numerous agents/vehicles often respond--driving fast

6. Lighting - impacts to nocturnal wildlife activity (could cause habitat to be unusable by ocelot/jaguarundi) for a distance into refuge.
7. MOU between FWS, USDA, CBP states under "exigent circumstances" agents can drive fast, make new roads, damage vegetation, etc. This is an "out" that prevents CBP from seriously coordinating with FWS to protect species and habitat.
8. Military Operations, Special Ops, Detailees w/CBP - no coordination occurs between special operations and FWS regarding activities on the refuges. Sensors, cameras, agents, etc. are deployed with no coordination with FWS on refuge lands. FWS personnel are often stopped/challenged when conducting land management activities on refuge lands by personnel FWS had no knowledge of. Military details often do more damage to refuge lands than improvements, since they are for training purposes as much as completing needed infrastructure improvements identified by CBP that may or may not be appropriate for a refuge tract.
9. Infrastructure impacts - refuge gates are routinely left open by CBP agents, increasing/encouraging illegal activity on refuge lands; high speed chases by CBP agents threaten wildlife, damage gates, fences, and destroy signs on the refuge(s); refuge roads are degraded by road dragging activities, driven on when inundated by agents; widened, newly created roads occur frequently (view Google maps over the past 14 years of imagery);
10. Additive Impacts - in exchange for improved technology, border wall infrastructure, surveillance towers/cameras, there should be some activities (like tire dragging) that are removed from the CBP tool box. No activities are protected. Impacts are all additive. The impacts to wildlife and habitat are cumulative every time CBP develops a new tool, all the previous tools remain in play. Some tools should replace and/or eliminate other tools, particularly those that are redundant or impact conservation measures unnecessarily.
11. Ecotourism Impacts - expansion of Border Wall (border infrastructure) along the IBWC flood control levee will separate Santa Ana NWR visitor center from refuge-proper (or 99% of the land on the refuge). Visitors will likely not feel safe or welcome to enter the refuge. Birding/ecotourism and related county-wide income will suffer significantly.
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Lower Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuge  
3325 Green Jay Road, Alamo, Texas 78516

(956) 784-7521 office; (956) 874-4304 cell

[bryan\\_winton@fws.gov](mailto:bryan_winton@fws.gov)

**"Winton, Bryan" <bryan\_winton@fws.gov>**

---

**From:** "Winton, Bryan" <bryan\_winton@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Wed Sep 20 2017 14:17:21 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** Scot Edler <scot\_edler@fws.gov>, Chris Perez <chris\_perez@fws.gov>, Kim Wahl <kimberly\_wahl@fws.gov>, Mitch Sternberg <mitch\_sternberg@fws.gov>, Gisela Chapa <gisela\_chapa@fws.gov>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Refuge Response/Concerns to CBP Correspondence dated 8-25-2017

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**Date:** Wed, Sep 20, 2017 at 3:15 PM  
**Subject:** Refuge Response/Concerns to CBP Correspondence dated 8-25-2017  
**To:** Rob Jess <[robert\\_jess@fws.gov](mailto:robert_jess@fws.gov)>, Ernesto Reyes <[ernesto\\_reyes@fws.gov](mailto:ernesto_reyes@fws.gov)>

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**"Perez, Chris" <[chris\\_perez@fws.gov](mailto:chris_perez@fws.gov)>**

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**From:** "Perez, Chris" <[chris\\_perez@fws.gov](mailto:chris_perez@fws.gov)>  
**Sent:** Wed Sep 20 2017 15:59:11 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Winton, Bryan" <[bryan\\_winton@fws.gov](mailto:bryan_winton@fws.gov)>  
**CC:** Scot Edler <[scot\\_edler@fws.gov](mailto:scot_edler@fws.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: Refuge Response/Concerns to CBP Correspondence dated 8-25-2017

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Chris Perez, Wildlife Biologist  
Lower Rio Grande Valley NWR  
3325 Green Jay Rd.  
Alamo, TX 78516  
Phone: 956-784-7553  
Fax: 956-787-8338

**"Winton, Bryan" <bryan\_winton@fws.gov>**

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**From:** "Winton, Bryan" <bryan\_winton@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Wed Sep 20 2017 16:01:08 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Perez, Chris" <chris\_perez@fws.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Refuge Response/Concerns to CBP Correspondence dated 8-25-2017

Good points. Thanks Chris.

bryan

On Wed, Sep 20, 2017 at 4:59 PM, Perez, Chris <[chris\\_perez@fws.gov](mailto:chris_perez@fws.gov)> wrote:

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**"Wahl, Kimberly" <[kimberly\\_wahl@fws.gov](mailto:kimberly_wahl@fws.gov)>**

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**From:** "Wahl, Kimberly" <[kimberly\\_wahl@fws.gov](mailto:kimberly_wahl@fws.gov)>  
**Sent:** Wed Sep 20 2017 16:20:47 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Winton, Bryan" <[bryan\\_winton@fws.gov](mailto:bryan_winton@fws.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: Refuge Response/Concerns to CBP Correspondence dated 8-25-2017

Bryan,

Two more that I can think of, which may be added into existing points where appropriate:

1) Noise from increased vehicle usage - at Santa Ana, this would be a concern for both public visitation and wildlife

2) Funds that have been used to improve habitat has subsequently been destroyed when BP has easier access to an area (Arroyo Ramirez - the habitat restoration work post road improvement project has turned into turn around points for BP even after t-posts were set to keep vehicles out, Arroyo Morteros - once a gate was reopened, BP began accessing area of salt cedar removal and habitat restoration project, Madero - post 2010 flood, BP agents began using resaca to drive through after salt cedar was removed rather than recovering to wildlife habitat). These are all examples where USFWS invested money into a site that was in turn wasted due to BP activities.

Kimberly Wahl-Villarreal  
Plant Ecologist  
South Texas Refuge Complex  
Phone (cell): 956-522-5746

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**"Chapa, Gisela" <gisela\_chapa@fws.gov>**

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**From:** "Chapa, Gisela" <gisela\_chapa@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Wed Sep 20 2017 18:34:17 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Winton, Bryan" <bryan\_winton@fws.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Refuge Response/Concerns to CBP Correspondence dated 8-25-2017

Bryan, here's my input regarding impacts to visitation in addition to ecotourism:

1. Ecotourism: Santa Ana receives an approximate 115,000 visitors a year, out of which an estimated 70% are from out of town and/or international visitors.
2. Visitation (both from locals and/or out of towners) will be negatively affected because of several reasons (in addition to what you already stated):
  - Perception of unsafe environment of "no-man's land" beyond the wall.
  - Difficulty accessing the refuge if visitors have to go through a gate on the road. This impacts existing programs such as the tram.
  - Possibly result in more "search and rescues" if the fence means we would have to reconfigure our wayfinding signage and "trail head". Currently, the 150 buffer zone will probably impact the direct connection between the VC and the trail head. It will likely, also "eat up" the trail head.
  - Increase negative interactions between vehicles on the refuge (patrolled enforcement zone) with pedestrians
  - Increase the likelihood of interactions between visitors and illegal activity (unless this totally fixes illegal crossings) by limiting access points to the refuge.
3. Other negative impacts include our potential response time to address an emergency if the access points are gated
4. Severely impair the community engagement program and our efforts to increase relevance and encourage outdoor recreation of big-6 activities to non-traditional audiences. Santa Ana is the most accessible refuge for residents of Hidalgo County and the prime example of the "big picture" of conservation; because of that Santa Ana is a registered national natural landmark <https://www.nps.gov/subjects/nnlandmarks/state.htm?State=TX>. The fence will only fuel the perception that the refuge and nature is unsafe and unwelcoming; furthermore, the local residents will not have easy access nature site the size of Santa Ana.

As we have discussed with Dave Bucy, visitation is highly contingent upon their perceptions of what they might encounter. Weather is a prime example of how our visitation is affected. Bad weather through the high visitation season highly affects visitation; we have seen this with the tram again and again with something so simple as rain. Another example of what might happen is the Hidalgo Pump House. Without their trails, there really isn't much else to see at the pump house. This means that we will have to overcome additional barriers through community outreach and partnerships.

Hope this helps.

Gisela Chapa  
Urban Wildlife Refuge Coordinator  
South Texas National Wildlife Refuge Complex

3325 Green Jay Road  
Alamo, Texas 78516

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956-784-7541  
956-357-1222 (C)  
956-787-8338 (F)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6eTg6FQT5hM>  
[http://www.fws.gov/refuge/santa\\_ana/](http://www.fws.gov/refuge/santa_ana/)

**"One generation plants a tree...the next enjoys the shade."  
-Anonymous**

On Wed, Sep 20, 2017 at 3:17 PM, Winton, Bryan <[bryan\\_winton@fws.gov](mailto:bryan_winton@fws.gov)> wrote:

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bryan

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From: **Winton, Bryan** <[bryan\\_winton@fws.gov](mailto:bryan_winton@fws.gov)>

Date: Wed, Sep 20, 2017 at 3:15 PM

Subject: Refuge Response/Concerns to CBP Correspondence dated 8-25-2017

To: Rob Jess <[robert\\_jess@fws.gov](mailto:robert_jess@fws.gov)>, Ernesto Reyes <[ernesto\\_reyes@fws.gov](mailto:ernesto_reyes@fws.gov)>

Subj: Regarding 28 miles of proposed Border Wall (Hidalgo County) and 32 miles of proposed Bollard Fence (Starr County) in President's FY18 Budget

Details of Proposal: 150' enforcement zone; 20-30' Bollard Wall; 18' Levee Wall; Automated Gates (20-50' wide); Lighting; All-Weather Access Road; Surveillance Cameras...

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3. Air Quality - high speed vehicle traffic will increase dust for wildlife and visitors
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ATV's, vehicles); ongoing/reoccurring trimming of vegetation; road improvements (disturbances); generator noise for lighting; turnover in agents causes repeat/ongoing problems with conservation measures/routine protection negotiations; gates routinely left open by agents (limits protection for refuge lands); 6 of 9 stations in RGV Sector operate on refuge lands (coordination nightmare until PLLA was established); high speed travel on refuge lands when sensors go off; groups are detected; numerous agents/vehicles often respond--driving fast

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12. Ecological Sink - If the entire Hidalgo County is allowed to have impenetrable concrete barrier on the south side of what is now an earthen flood-control levee, those conservation lands (and all other lands) south of the wall/levee will serve as an ecological sink for terrestrial organisms during the times of future overbank flooding of the Rio Grande river. Wildlife will not be able to escape future river flooding events. This project will create widespread death for terrestrial organisms if constructed, since 85% of the conservation

lands for Lower Rio Grande Valley NWR river tracts are south of the IBWC levee currently (in the IBWC Restricted Use Zone), and 99.9% of Santa Ana NWR conservation lands.

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Lower Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuge  
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(956) 784-7521 office; (956) 874-4304 cell  
[bryan\\_winton@fws.gov](mailto:bryan_winton@fws.gov)

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**From:** "Winton, Bryan" <[bryan\\_winton@fws.gov](mailto:bryan_winton@fws.gov)>  
**Sent:** Thu Sep 21 2017 08:42:55 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** Rob Jess <[robert\\_jess@fws.gov](mailto:robert_jess@fws.gov)>, Ernesto Reyes <[ernesto\\_reyes@fws.gov](mailto:ernesto_reyes@fws.gov)>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Refuge Response/Concerns to CBP Correspondence dated 8-25-2017

Additional feedback/observations (refuge concerns) from staff that have been here for a few years.

bryan

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From: **Wahl, Kimberly** <[kimberly\\_wahl@fws.gov](mailto:kimberly_wahl@fws.gov)>  
Date: Wed, Sep 20, 2017 at 5:20 PM  
Subject: Re: Refuge Response/Concerns to CBP Correspondence dated 8-25-2017  
To: "Winton, Bryan" <[bryan\\_winton@fws.gov](mailto:bryan_winton@fws.gov)>

Bryan,

Two more that I can think of, which may be added into existing points where appropriate:

1) Noise from increased vehicle usage - at Santa Ana, this would be a concern for both public visitation and wildlife

2) Funds that have been used to improve habitat has subsequently been destroyed when BP has easier access to an area (Arroyo Ramirez - the habitat restoration work post road

improvement project has turned into turn around points for BP even after t-posts were set to keep vehicles out, Arroyo Morteros - once a gate was reopened, BP began accessing area of salt cedar removal and habitat restoration project, Madero - post 2010 flood, BP agents began using resaca to drive through after salt cedar was removed rather than recovering to wildlife habitat). These are all examples where USFWS invested money into a site that was in turn wasted due to BP activities.

Kimberly Wahl-Villarreal  
Plant Ecologist  
South Texas Refuge Complex  
Phone (cell): 956-522-5746

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**Sent:** Thu Sep 21 2017 08:48:05 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** Rob Jess <[robert\\_jess@fws.gov](mailto:robert_jess@fws.gov)>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Refuge Response/Concerns to CBP Correspondence dated 8-25-2017

Feedback from Gisela on impacts to visitation and Urban Refuge Initiative.  
bryan

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From: **Chapa, Gisela** <[gisela\\_chapa@fws.gov](mailto:gisela_chapa@fws.gov)>  
Date: Wed, Sep 20, 2017 at 7:34 PM  
Subject: Re: Refuge Response/Concerns to CBP Correspondence dated 8-25-2017  
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**Sent:** Thu Sep 21 2017 08:49:39 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** Rob Jess <[robert\\_jess@fws.gov](mailto:robert_jess@fws.gov)>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Refuge Response/Concerns to CBP Correspondence dated 8-25-2017

Feedback from Wildlife Biologist Chris Perez on refuge concerns.

bryan

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**From:** Perez, Chris <[chris\\_perez@fws.gov](mailto:chris_perez@fws.gov)>  
**Date:** Wed, Sep 20, 2017 at 4:59 PM  
**Subject:** Re: Refuge Response/Concerns to CBP Correspondence dated 8-25-2017  
**To:** "Winton, Bryan" <[bryan\\_winton@fws.gov](mailto:bryan_winton@fws.gov)>  
**Cc:** Scot Edler <[scot\\_edler@fws.gov](mailto:scot_edler@fws.gov)>

I don't see anything in here about the effects that continual habitat disturbance has by facilitating the spread of invasive species, particularly grasses or the incidences of fires that occur from human activities on the refuge, or erosion from vegetation clearing such as the numerous drag roads they create on the refuge . You could probably add these to Item No.1.

Also, these activities associated with CPB projects cumulatively result in dis-functionality of the wildlife corridor concept along the river, which was originally a major objective for land acquisition efforts and habitat preservation for LRGV NWR.

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1. Loss of Habitat - habitat is extremely limited in S. Texas; many T&E species; high biodiversity; already severely fragmented
2. Disturbance - enforcement zone will have improved road; will cause high speeds (public safety) and increased wildlife mortality
3. Air Quality - high speed vehicle traffic will increase dust for wildlife and visitors
4. Security - Border Wall in Hidalgo Co. will be built in segments. How will the refuge remain secure during construction and post construction. The public, bandits, smugglers, etc. will have improved access into Santa Ana NWR and LRGV NWR tracts during the interim construction until/unless the entire Hidalgo County wall segment is completed. After completion the same public will have access behind the wall (or segments) until the Border Wall "gates" are constructed. Initial Border Wall was built in 2007 (10 years ago) and only 1/2 of the gates have been installed to date.
5. Existing Border Activities - road dragging, creation of new trails and roads (by horses, ATV's, vehicles); ongoing/reoccurring trimming of vegetation; road improvements (disturbances); generator noise for lighting; turnover in agents causes repeat/ongoing problems with conservation measures/routine protection negotiations; gates routinely left open by agents (limits protection for refuge lands); 6 of 9 stations in RGV Sector operate on refuge lands (coordination nightmare until PLLA was established); high speed travel on refuge lands when sensors go off; groups are detected; numerous agents/vehicles often respond--driving fast
6. Lighting - impacts to nocturnal wildlife activity (could cause habitat to be unusable by ocelot/jaguarundi) for a distance into refuge.
7. MOU between FWS, USDA, CBP states under "exigent circumstances" agents can drive fast, make new roads, damage vegetation, etc. This is an "out" that prevents CBP from

seriously coordinating with FWS to protect species and habitat.

8. Military Operations, Special Ops, Detailees w/CBP - no coordination occurs between special operations and FWS regarding activities on the refuges. Sensors, cameras, agents, etc. are deployed with no coordination with FWS on refuge lands. FWS personnel are often stopped/challenged when conducting land management activities on refuge lands by personnel FWS had no knowledge of. Military details often do more damage to refuge lands than improvements, since they are for training purposes as much as completing needed infrastructure improvements identified by CBP that may or may not be appropriate for a refuge tract.

9. Infrastructure impacts - refuge gates are routinely left open by CBP agents, increasing/encouraging illegal activity on refuge lands; high speed chases by CBP agents threaten wildlife, damage gates, fences, and destroy signs on the refuge(s); refuge roads are degraded by road dragging activities, driven on when inundated by agents; widened, newly created roads occur frequently (view Google maps over the past 14 years of imagery);

10. Additive Impacts - in exchange for improved technology, border wall infrastructure, surveillance towers/cameras, there should be some activities (like tire dragging) that are removed from the CBP tool box. No activities are protected. Impacts are all additive. The impacts to wildlife and habitat are cumulative every time CBP develops a new tool, all the previous tools remain in play. Some tools should replace and/or eliminate other tools, particularly those that are redundant or impact conservation measures unnecessarily.

11. Ecotourism Impacts - expansion of Border Wall (border infrastructure) along the IBWC flood control levee will separate Santa Ana NWR visitor center from refuge-proper (or 99% of the land on the refuge). Visitors will likely not feel safe or welcome to enter the refuge. Birding/ecotourism and related county-wide income will suffer significantly.

12. Ecological Sink - If the entire Hidalgo County is allowed to have impenetrable concrete barrier on the south side of what is now an earthen flood-control levee, those conservation lands (and all other lands) south of the wall/levee will serve as an ecological sink for terrestrial organisms during the times of future overbank flooding of the Rio Grande river. Wildlife will not be able to escape future river flooding events. This project will create widespread death for terrestrial organisms if constructed, since 85% of the conservation lands for Lower Rio Grande Valley NWR river tracts are south of the IBWC levee currently (in the IBWC Restricted Use Zone), and 99.9% of Santa Ana NWR conservation lands.

--

Bryan R. Winton, Wildlife Refuge Manager  
Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge  
Lower Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuge  
[3325 Green Jay Road, Alamo, Texas 78516](https://www.fws.gov/refuge/santa-ana)  
(956) 784-7521 office; (956) 874-4304 cell  
[bryan\\_winton@fws.gov](mailto:bryan_winton@fws.gov)

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Chris Perez, Wildlife Biologist  
Lower Rio Grande Valley NWR  
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Fax: 956-787-8338

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# **Label: "Border Wall"**

**Created by:aislinn\_maestas@fws.gov**

Total Messages in label:361 (98 conversations)

Created: 04-12-2018 at 12:44 PM

# Conversation Contents

**FYI: Media Inquiry - Ocelots and potential impacts from border wall (interest in conservation easements)**

**"Tincher, Chris" <[chris\\_tincher@fws.gov](mailto:chris_tincher@fws.gov)>**

---

**From:** "Tincher, Chris" <[chris\\_tincher@fws.gov](mailto:chris_tincher@fws.gov)>  
**Sent:** Wed Nov 15 2017 07:36:50 GMT-0700 (MST)  
**To:** John Bradley <[john\\_bradley@fws.gov](mailto:john_bradley@fws.gov)>  
**CC:** Beth Ullenberg <[beth\\_ullenberg@fws.gov](mailto:beth_ullenberg@fws.gov)>, Aislinn Maestas <[aislinn\\_maestas@fws.gov](mailto:aislinn_maestas@fws.gov)>  
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**Cc:** Beth Ullenberg <[beth\\_ullenberg@fws.gov](mailto:beth_ullenberg@fws.gov)>, Lesli Gray <[lesli\\_gray@fws.gov](mailto:lesli_gray@fws.gov)>, Aislinn Maestas <[aislinn\\_maestas@fws.gov](mailto:aislinn_maestas@fws.gov)>

Yes. Thanks,

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Chief of Public Affairs  
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Gavin any idea who can answer this persons inquiry?

Regards,

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Email submitted from Contact Us form received: 11/15/2017 03:07:25 MT  
Message ID: 7779DA77-D469-2253-87AB6F284D2F4588

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First Name: Tamzyn  
Last Name: Degoumois  
State:  
Country: ZA

Dear Sir/Ma'am,

My name is Tamzyn Degoumois. I am a wildlife journalist with the Earth Touch Online News Network (<https://www.earthtouchnews.com>).

I am currently producing a short video segment regarding the decline of ocelots in North America and the possible impact of the proposed U.S.-Mexico Border Wall.

In this video, I would like to graphically demonstrate the range of the proposed USFWS

Wildlife Corridor running from Rio Grande City to the ranchlands North of Laguna Atascosa Wildlife Refuge.

I would also like to highlight the involvement of private landowners through conservation easements and land purchases.

Could you please put me in contact with someone involved in the Wildlife Corridor Project that could assist me in this matter?

Yours Faithfully

Tamzyn Degoumois

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**"Maestas, Aislinn" <aislinn\_maestas@fws.gov>**

**From:** "Maestas, Aislinn" <aislinn\_maestas@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Wed Nov 15 2017 09:47:48 GMT-0700 (MST)  
**To:** "Tincher, Chris" <chris\_tincher@fws.gov>  
**CC:** John Bradley <john\_bradley@fws.gov>, Beth Ullenberg <beth\_ullenberg@fws.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: FYI: Media Inquiry - Ocelots and potential impacts from border wall (interest in conservation easements)

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**To:** "Maestas, Aislinn" <[aislinn\\_maestas@fws.gov](mailto:aislinn_maestas@fws.gov)>

**Subject:** Re: FYI: Media Inquiry - Ocelots and potential impacts from border wall (interest in conservation easements)

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Email submitted from Contact Us form received: 11/15/2017 03:07:25 MT  
Message ID: 7779DA77-D469-2253-87AB6F284D2F4588

From: [tamzynd@gmail.com](mailto:tamzynd@gmail.com)  
First Name: Tamzyn  
Last Name: Degoumois  
State:  
Country: ZA

Dear Sir/Ma'am,

My name is Tamzyn Degoumois. I am a wildlife journalist with the Earth Touch Online News Network (<https://www.earthtouchnews.com>).

I am currently producing a short video segment regarding the decline of ocelots in North America and the possible impact of the proposed U.S.-Mexico Border Wall.

In this video, I would like to graphically demonstrate the range of the proposed USFWS Wildlife Corridor running from Rio Grande City to the ranchlands North of Laguna Atascosa Wildlife Refuge.

I would also like to highlight the involvement of private landowners through conservation easements and land purchases.

Could you please put me in contact with someone involved in the Wildlife Corridor Project that could assist me in this matter?

Yours Faithfully

Tamzyn Degoumois

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**Aislinn Maestas**  
Public Affairs Specialist  
External Affairs  
Southwest Region, US Fish and Wildlife Service  
Phone: 505-248-6599  
[aislinn\\_maestas@fws.gov](mailto:aislinn_maestas@fws.gov)

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**"Bradley, John" <[john\\_bradley@fws.gov](mailto:john_bradley@fws.gov)>**

**From:** "Bradley, John" <[john\\_bradley@fws.gov](mailto:john_bradley@fws.gov)>  
**Sent:** Wed Nov 15 2017 10:25:43 GMT-0700 (MST)  
**To:** "Tincher, Chris" <[chris\\_tincher@fws.gov](mailto:chris_tincher@fws.gov)>  
**CC:** Beth Ullenberg <[beth\\_ullenberg@fws.gov](mailto:beth_ullenberg@fws.gov)>, Aislinn Maestas <[aislinn\\_maestas@fws.gov](mailto:aislinn_maestas@fws.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: FYI: Media Inquiry - Ocelots and potential impacts from border wall (interest in conservation easements)

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**"Maestas, Aislinn" <[aislinn\\_maestas@fws.gov](mailto:aislinn_maestas@fws.gov)>**

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**Sent:** Wed Nov 15 2017 11:22:35 GMT-0700 (MST)  
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**CC:** "Tincher, Chris" <[chris\\_tincher@fws.gov](mailto:chris_tincher@fws.gov)>, Beth Ullenberg <[beth\\_ullenberg@fws.gov](mailto:beth_ullenberg@fws.gov)>  
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**Sent:** Wed Nov 15 2017 11:24:16 GMT-0700 (MST)  
**To:** "Maestas, Aislinn" <[aislinn\\_maestas@fws.gov](mailto:aislinn_maestas@fws.gov)>  
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Let's wait and gather all materials and send the reporter one message with the assets we have. Is the b-roll something we have posted online?

- A

On Wed, Nov 15, 2017 at 10:25 AM, Bradley, John <[john\\_bradley@fws.gov](mailto:john_bradley@fws.gov)> wrote:  
I have a photo and b-roll from USFWS. Do you want me to send the media to Mr. Degoumois?

John

On Wed, Nov 15, 2017 at 7:36 AM, Tincher, Chris <[chris\\_tincher@fws.gov](mailto:chris_tincher@fws.gov)> wrote:  
Hi John,  
Gavin sent this media inquiry this morning. It came through the web Contact Us system.

I let Gavin know that Beth and Aislinn will be point on the response.

Can you help with the b-roll part? I'm not exactly sure what we have. I have a recollection of some footage. It may only be from the cameras set up on trails.

Chris

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

**From:** **Shire, Gavin** <[gavin\\_shire@fws.gov](mailto:gavin_shire@fws.gov)>  
**Date:** Wed, Nov 15, 2017 at 7:28 AM  
**Subject:** Re: Media Inquiry - Ocelots and potential impacts from border wall (interest in conservation easements)  
**To:** "Tincher, Chris" <[chris\\_tincher@fws.gov](mailto:chris_tincher@fws.gov)>  
**Cc:** Beth Ullenberg <[beth\\_ullenberg@fws.gov](mailto:beth_ullenberg@fws.gov)>, Lesli Gray <[lesli\\_gray@fws.gov](mailto:lesli_gray@fws.gov)>, Aislinn Maestas <[aislinn\\_maestas@fws.gov](mailto:aislinn_maestas@fws.gov)>

Yes. Thanks,

G

Gavin Shire  
Chief of Public Affairs  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

MS: EA  
[5275 Leesburg Pike](#)  
[Falls Church, VA 22041](#)-3803  
703-358-2649 (o)  
703-346-9123 (c)  
[gavin\\_shire@fws.gov](mailto:gavin_shire@fws.gov)

On Wed, Nov 15, 2017 at 9:27 AM, Tincher, Chris <[chris\\_tincher@fws.gov](mailto:chris_tincher@fws.gov)> wrote:

Gavin,  
Re-read the email and am adding Aislinn Maestas (she is our border lead) to this chain. Beth and Aislinn will work together on this request.

Am I following that you are okay with sharing b-roll and background?

Chris

Christine R. Tincher  
Congressional Liaison / Public Affairs Specialist  
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service - Southwest Region  
New Mexico \* Arizona \* Texas \* Oklahoma

Office: (602) 889-5954  
Mobile: (505) 449-8776  
Email: [chris\\_tincher@fws.gov](mailto:chris_tincher@fws.gov)

\*\*\*\*\*

On Wed, Nov 15, 2017 at 7:22 AM, Shire, Gavin <[gavin\\_shire@fws.gov](mailto:gavin_shire@fws.gov)> wrote:

My concern is that this video is tied specifically to impacts of the border wall, a subject we have been told to steer clear of other than the approved statement. Although your folks may be able to give great answers that avoid mention of wall impacts, they will nevertheless be shown alongside other interviews and narration that will directly attribute impacts on ocelots to the wall and so will have implications conferred on them by association. Background and b-roll only would keep us out of trouble.

G

Gavin Shire  
Chief of Public Affairs  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
MS: EA  
[5275 Leesburg Pike](#)  
[Falls Church, VA 22041](#)-3803  
703-358-2649 (o)  
703-346-9123 (c)  
[gavin\\_shire@fws.gov](mailto:gavin_shire@fws.gov)

On Wed, Nov 15, 2017 at 9:09 AM, Tincher, Chris <[chris\\_tincher@fws.gov](mailto:chris_tincher@fws.gov)> wrote:

Morning Gavin,  
Beth will be the best one to take this one on. We have some Refuge folks who have given great interviews on the ocelot questions and conservation easements. They have also been on camera quite a bit. If we don't do an on-camera interview, perhaps we can send some footage. Thoughts?  
Chris

Christine R. Tincher  
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U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service - Southwest Region  
New Mexico \* Arizona \* Texas \* Oklahoma

Office: (602) 889-5954  
Mobile: (505) 449-8776  
Email: [chris\\_tincher@fws.gov](mailto:chris_tincher@fws.gov)

\*\*\*\*\*

On Wed, Nov 15, 2017 at 6:59 AM, Shire, Gavin <[gavin\\_shire@fws.gov](mailto:gavin_shire@fws.gov)> wrote:

Do any of you know about this project? I don't want to get into a discussion of the potential impacts of the proposed border wall and think we should avoid FWS staff appearing on camera for this interview, but if we can provide background information on the project and the species, I would be comfortable. Thoughts?

G

Gavin Shire  
Chief of Public Affairs  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
MS: EA  
[5275 Leesburg Pike](#)  
[Falls Church, VA 22041](#)-3803  
703-358-2649 (o)  
703-346-9123 (c)  
[gavin\\_shire@fws.gov](mailto:gavin_shire@fws.gov)

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

From: **Contact2, FWHQ** <[contact2@fws.gov](mailto:contact2@fws.gov)>  
Date: Wed, Nov 15, 2017 at 7:41 AM  
Subject: Fwd: New message from Contact Us form  
To: Gavin Shire <[gavin\\_shire@fws.gov](mailto:gavin_shire@fws.gov)>

Gavin any idea who can answer this persons inquiry?

Regards,

Customer Service Center - Tier II  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

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

From: <[tamzynd@gmail.com](mailto:tamzynd@gmail.com)>  
Date: Wed, Nov 15, 2017 at 5:07 AM  
Subject: New message from Contact Us form  
To: [contact2@fws.gov](mailto:contact2@fws.gov)

Email submitted from Contact Us form received: 11/15/2017 03:07:25 MT  
Message ID: 7779DA77-D469-2253-87AB6F284D2F4588

From: [tamzynd@gmail.com](mailto:tamzynd@gmail.com)  
First Name: Tamzyn  
Last Name: Degoumois  
State:

Country: ZA

Dear Sir/Ma'am,

My name is Tamzyn Degoumois. I am a wildlife journalist with the Earth Touch Online News Network (<https://www.earthtouchnews.com>).

I am currently producing a short video segment regarding the decline of ocelots in North America and the possible impact of the proposed U.S.-Mexico Border Wall.

In this video, I would like to graphically demonstrate the range of the proposed USFWS Wildlife Corridor running from Rio Grande City to the ranchlands North of Laguna Atascosa Wildlife Refuge.

I would also like to highlight the involvement of private landowners through conservation easements and land purchases.

Could you please put me in contact with someone involved in the Wildlife Corridor Project that could assist me in this matter?

Yours Faithfully

Tamzyn Degoumois

--

John Bradley, External Affairs  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
P.O. Box 1306  
Dennis Chavez Federal Building  
Albuquerque, NM 87103  
505-248-6279 - 505-761-4727 office  
410-991-5388 mobile

--

**Aislinn Maestas**  
Public Affairs Specialist  
External Affairs  
Southwest Region, US Fish and Wildlife Service  
Phone: 505-248-6599  
[aislinn\\_maestas@fws.gov](mailto:aislinn_maestas@fws.gov)

--

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U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
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WOMEN  
ARE THE  
**WALL**  
and  
TRUMP  
**WILL PAY**

SALVAR  
  
NUESTRO  
RÍO

PROTECT  
  
THE  
WILD LIFE  
CORRIDOR

SALV  
SAVE  
  
SANTA  
ANA

SAVE  
  
OUR  
FARMS

SAVE  
  
LA  
LOMITA

WOMEN ARE THE WALL  
and TRUMP WILL PAY

# **Label: "Border Wall"**

**Created by:aislinn\_maestas@fws.gov**

Total Messages in label:361 (98 conversations)

Created: 04-12-2018 at 12:44 PM

# Conversation Contents

Interview Santa Ana

**Alex Segura Lozano <asegura@efeamerica.com>**

---

**From:** Alex Segura Lozano <asegura@efeamerica.com>  
**Sent:** Tue Nov 14 2017 13:34:48 GMT-0700 (MST)  
**To:** "aislinn\_maestas@fws.gov" <aislinn\_maestas@fws.gov>  
**Subject:** Interview Santa Ana

Good afternoon Mrs. Maestas,

I happen to be in McAllen today and I was wondering if it's possible to arrange an interview to talk about the Trump wall and its impact to Santa Ana National wildlife Refuge. Do you think I could go today? Mrs. Donald gave me your contact.

Thank you,

--

Alex Segura  
Texas Correspondent  
Austin (TX), USA  
EFE News Services  
Tel: [\(512\) 5676749](tel:5125676749)  
[www.efe.es](http://www.efe.es)

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**"Maestas, Aislinn" <aislinn\_maestas@fws.gov>**

---

**From:** "Maestas, Aislinn" <aislinn\_maestas@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue Nov 14 2017 13:51:46 GMT-0700 (MST)  
**To:** Alex Segura Lozano <asegura@efeamerica.com>  
**Subject:** Re: Interview Santa Ana

Good afternoon Alex,

At this time we do not have anyone available for interview on this topic. Here is our statement for the media:

*"The Department of the Interior (DOI) is one of several federal agencies that U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) has engaged with to implement the President's Executive Order (EO) 13767 - Border Security and Immigration Enforcement Improvements. CBP has included DOI in initial discussions regarding the implementation of the EO in south Texas. For all border specific inquiries, please contact U.S. Customs and Border Protection's Office of Public Affairs at [cbpmediarelations@cbp.dhs.gov](mailto:cbpmediarelations@cbp.dhs.gov).*

*The Service will continue to work with CBP on any proposed activities, through formal and informal processes, to minimize impacts to the region's national wildlife refuges and natural resources."*

Please let me know if I can be of further assistance.

- Aislinn

On Tue, Nov 14, 2017 at 1:34 PM, Alex Segura Lozano <[asegura@efeamerica.com](mailto:asegura@efeamerica.com)> wrote:

Good afternoon Mrs. Maestas,

I happen to be in McAllen today and I was wondering if it's possible to arrange an interview to talk about the Trump wall and its impact to Santa Ana National wildlife Refuge. Do you think I could go today? Mrs. Donald gave me your contact.

Thank you,

--

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**Aislinn Maestas**  
Public Affairs Specialist  
External Affairs  
Southwest Region, US Fish and Wildlife Service  
Phone: 505-248-6599  
[aislinn\\_maestas@fws.gov](mailto:aislinn_maestas@fws.gov)

**Alex Segura Lozano <[asegura@efeamerica.com](mailto:asegura@efeamerica.com)>**

---

**From:** Alex Segura Lozano <asegura@efeamerica.com>  
**Sent:** Tue Nov 14 2017 14:21:38 GMT-0700 (MST)  
**To:** "Maestas, Aislinn" <aislinn\_maestas@fws.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Interview Santa Ana

Thank you for your response. Do you think you will have anyone available to talk on this topic within the next weeks?

Thank you so much,

El El mar, 14 nov 2017 a las 14:51, Maestas, Aislinn <[aislinn\\_maestas@fws.gov](mailto:aislinn_maestas@fws.gov)> escribió:

Good afternoon Alex,

At this time we do not have anyone available for interview on this topic. Here is our statement for the media:

*"The Department of the Interior (DOI) is one of several federal agencies that U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) has engaged with to implement the President's Executive Order (EO) 13767 - Border Security and Immigration Enforcement Improvements. CBP has included DOI in initial discussions regarding the implementation of the EO in south Texas. For all border specific inquiries, please contact U.S. Customs and Border Protection's Office of Public Affairs at [cbpmediarelations@cbp.dhs.gov](mailto:cbpmediarelations@cbp.dhs.gov).*

*The Service will continue to work with CBP on any proposed activities, through formal and informal processes, to minimize impacts to the region's national wildlife refuges and natural resources."*

Please let me know if I can be of further assistance.

- Aislinn

On Tue, Nov 14, 2017 at 1:34 PM, Alex Segura Lozano <[asegura@efeamerica.com](mailto:asegura@efeamerica.com)> wrote:

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**"Maestas, Aislinn" <[aislinn\\_maestas@fws.gov](mailto:aislinn_maestas@fws.gov)>**

---

**From:** "Maestas, Aislinn" <[aislinn\\_maestas@fws.gov](mailto:aislinn_maestas@fws.gov)>  
**Sent:** Wed Nov 15 2017 07:53:10 GMT-0700 (MST)  
**To:** Alex Segura Lozano <[asegura@efeamerica.com](mailto:asegura@efeamerica.com)>  
**Subject:** Re: Interview Santa Ana

I don't think so. You can try to submit your request to [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov) as well.

Thank you,  
- Aislinn

On Tue, Nov 14, 2017 at 2:21 PM, Alex Segura Lozano <[asegura@efeamerica.com](mailto:asegura@efeamerica.com)> wrote:  
Thank you for your response. Do you think you will have anyone available to talk on this topic within the next weeks?

Thank you so much,

El El mar, 14 nov 2017 a las 14:51, Maestas, Aislinn <[aislinn\\_maestas@fws.gov](mailto:aislinn_maestas@fws.gov)> escribió:  
Good afternoon Alex,

At this time we do not have anyone available for interview on this topic. Here is our statement for the media:

*"The Department of the Interior (DOI) is one of several federal agencies that U.S. Customs*

*and Border Protection (CBP) has engaged with to implement the President's Executive Order (EO) 13767 - Border Security and Immigration Enforcement Improvements. CBP has included DOI in initial discussions regarding the implementation of the EO in south Texas. For all border specific inquiries, please contact U.S. Customs and Border Protection's Office of Public Affairs at [cbpmediarelations@cbp.dhs.gov](mailto:cbpmediarelations@cbp.dhs.gov).*

*The Service will continue to work with CBP on any proposed activities, through formal and informal processes, to minimize impacts to the region's national wildlife refuges and natural resources."*

Please let me know if I can be of further assistance.

- Aislinn

On Tue, Nov 14, 2017 at 1:34 PM, Alex Segura Lozano <[asegura@efeamerica.com](mailto:asegura@efeamerica.com)> wrote:

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External Affairs  
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Phone: 505-248-6599  
[aislinn\\_maestas@fws.gov](mailto:aislinn_maestas@fws.gov)

**Alex Segura Lozano <[asegura@efeamerica.com](mailto:asegura@efeamerica.com)>**

---

**From:** Alex Segura Lozano <[asegura@efeamerica.com](mailto:asegura@efeamerica.com)>  
**Sent:** Wed Nov 15 2017 07:53:47 GMT-0700 (MST)  
**To:** "Maestas, Aislinn" <[aislinn\\_maestas@fws.gov](mailto:aislinn_maestas@fws.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: Interview Santa Ana

Thank you, I will do that.

El El mié, 15 nov 2017 a las 8:53, Maestas, Aislinn <[aislinn\\_maestas@fws.gov](mailto:aislinn_maestas@fws.gov)> escribió:  
I don't think so. You can try to submit your request to [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov) as well.

Thank you,  
- Aislinn

On Tue, Nov 14, 2017 at 2:21 PM, Alex Segura Lozano <[asegura@efeamerica.com](mailto:asegura@efeamerica.com)> wrote:  
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Southwest Region, US Fish and Wildlife Service

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# **Label: "Border Wall"**

**Created by:aislinn\_maestas@fws.gov**

Total Messages in label:361 (98 conversations)

Created: 04-12-2018 at 12:44 PM

# Conversation Contents

Media Inquiry - Ocelots and potential impacts from border wall (interest in conservation easements)

**"Tincher, Chris" <chris\_tincher@fws.gov>**

---

**From:** "Tincher, Chris" <chris\_tincher@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Wed Nov 15 2017 07:27:30 GMT-0700 (MST)  
**To:** "Shire, Gavin" <gavin\_shire@fws.gov>  
Beth Ullenberg <beth\_ullenberg@fws.gov>, Lesli Gray <lesli\_gray@fws.gov>, Aislinn Maestas <aislinn\_maestas@fws.gov>  
**CC:**  
**Subject:** Media Inquiry - Ocelots and potential impacts from border wall (interest in conservation easements)

Gavin,  
Re-read the email and am adding Aislinn Maestas (she is our border lead) to this chain. Beth and Aislinn will work together on this request.

Am I following that you are okay with sharing b-roll and background?

Chris

Christine R. Tincher  
Congressional Liaison / Public Affairs Specialist  
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service - Southwest Region  
New Mexico \* Arizona \* Texas \* Oklahoma

Office: (602) 889-5954  
Mobile: (505) 449-8776  
Email: [chris\\_tincher@fws.gov](mailto:chris_tincher@fws.gov)

\*\*\*\*\*

On Wed, Nov 15, 2017 at 7:22 AM, Shire, Gavin <[gavin\\_shire@fws.gov](mailto:gavin_shire@fws.gov)> wrote:

My concern is that this video is tied specifically to impacts of the border wall, a subject we have been told to steer clear of other than the approved statement. Although your folks may be able to give great answers that avoid mention of wall impacts, they will nevertheless be shown alongside other interviews and narration that will directly attribute impacts on ocelots to the wall and so will have implications conferred on them by association. Background and b-roll only would keep us out of trouble.

G

Gavin Shire  
Chief of Public Affairs  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
MS: EA  
[5275 Leesburg Pike](https://www.fws.gov/leesburg)  
[Falls Church, VA 22041](https://www.fws.gov/fallschurch)-3803

703-358-2649 (o)  
703-346-9123 (c)  
[gavin\\_shire@fws.gov](mailto:gavin_shire@fws.gov)

On Wed, Nov 15, 2017 at 9:09 AM, Tincher, Chris <[chris\\_tincher@fws.gov](mailto:chris_tincher@fws.gov)> wrote:

Morning Gavin,  
Beth will be the best one to take this one on. We have some Refuge folks who have given great interviews on the ocelot questions and conservation easements. They have also been on camera quite a bit. If we don't do an on-camera interview, perhaps we can send some footage. Thoughts?  
Chris

Christine R. Tincher  
Congressional Liaison / Public Affairs Specialist  
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service - Southwest Region  
New Mexico \* Arizona \* Texas \* Oklahoma

Office: (602) 889-5954  
Mobile: (505) 449-8776  
Email: [chris\\_tincher@fws.gov](mailto:chris_tincher@fws.gov)

\*\*\*\*\*

On Wed, Nov 15, 2017 at 6:59 AM, Shire, Gavin <[gavin\\_shire@fws.gov](mailto:gavin_shire@fws.gov)> wrote:

Do any of you know about this project? I don't want to get into a discussion of the potential impacts of the proposed border wall and think we should avoid FWS staff appearing on camera for this interview, but if we can provide background information on the project and the species, I would be comfortable. Thoughts?

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

From: **Contact2, FWHQ** <[contact2@fws.gov](mailto:contact2@fws.gov)>  
Date: Wed, Nov 15, 2017 at 7:41 AM  
Subject: Fwd: New message from Contact Us form  
To: Gavin Shire <[gavin\\_shire@fws.gov](mailto:gavin_shire@fws.gov)>

Gavin any idea who can answer this persons inquiry?

Regards,

Customer Service Center - Tier II  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

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From: <[tamzynd@gmail.com](mailto:tamzynd@gmail.com)>  
Date: Wed, Nov 15, 2017 at 5:07 AM  
Subject: New message from Contact Us form  
To: [contact2@fws.gov](mailto:contact2@fws.gov)

Email submitted from Contact Us form received: 11/15/2017 03:07:25 MT  
Message ID: 7779DA77-D469-2253-87AB6F284D2F4588

From: [tamzynd@gmail.com](mailto:tamzynd@gmail.com)  
First Name: Tamzyn  
Last Name: Degoumois  
State:  
Country: ZA

Dear Sir/Ma'am,

My name is Tamzyn Degoumois. I am a wildlife journalist with the Earth Touch Online News Network (<https://www.earthtouchnews.com>).

I am currently producing a short video segment regarding the decline of ocelots in North America and the possible impact of the proposed U.S.-Mexico Border Wall.

In this video, I would like to graphically demonstrate the range of the proposed USFWS Wildlife Corridor running from Rio Grande City to the ranchlands North of Laguna Atascosa Wildlife Refuge.

I would also like to highlight the involvement of private landowners through conservation easements and land purchases.

Could you please put me in contact with someone involved in the Wildlife Corridor Project that could assist me in this matter?

Yours Faithfully

Tamzyn Degoumois

---

**"Shire, Gavin" <[gavin\\_shire@fws.gov](mailto:gavin_shire@fws.gov)>**

**From:** "Shire, Gavin" <[gavin\\_shire@fws.gov](mailto:gavin_shire@fws.gov)>  
**Sent:** Wed Nov 15 2017 07:28:26 GMT-0700 (MST)  
**To:** "Tincher, Chris" <[chris\\_tincher@fws.gov](mailto:chris_tincher@fws.gov)>  
**CC:** Beth Ullenberg <[beth\\_ullenberg@fws.gov](mailto:beth_ullenberg@fws.gov)>, Lesli Gray <[lesli\\_gray@fws.gov](mailto:lesli_gray@fws.gov)>, Aislinn Maestas <[aislinn\\_maestas@fws.gov](mailto:aislinn_maestas@fws.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: Media Inquiry - Ocelots and potential impacts from border wall (interest in conservation easements)

Yes. Thanks,

G

Gavin Shire  
Chief of Public Affairs  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
MS: EA  
5275 Leesburg Pike  
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803  
703-358-2649 (o)  
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[gavin\\_shire@fws.gov](mailto:gavin_shire@fws.gov)

On Wed, Nov 15, 2017 at 9:27 AM, Tincher, Chris <[chris\\_tincher@fws.gov](mailto:chris_tincher@fws.gov)> wrote:

Gavin,  
Re-read the email and am adding Aislinn Maestas (she is our border lead) to this chain. Beth and Aislinn will work together on this request.

Am I following that you are okay with sharing b-roll and background?

Chris

Christine R. Tincher  
Congressional Liaison / Public Affairs Specialist  
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service - Southwest Region  
New Mexico \* Arizona \* Texas \* Oklahoma

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State:

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Yours Faithfully

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# **Label: "Border Wall"**

**Created by:aislinn\_maestas@fws.gov**

Total Messages in label:361 (98 conversations)

Created: 04-12-2018 at 12:44 PM

# Conversation Contents

Fwd: Meeting Oct. 30th - Santa Ana Refuge

**Joy Nicholopoulos <[joy\\_nicholopoulos@fws.gov](mailto:joy_nicholopoulos@fws.gov)>**

---

**From:** Joy Nicholopoulos <[joy\\_nicholopoulos@fws.gov](mailto:joy_nicholopoulos@fws.gov)>  
**Sent:** Tue Oct 24 2017 10:08:47 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** Aislinn Maestas <[aislinn\\_maestas@fws.gov](mailto:aislinn_maestas@fws.gov)>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Meeting Oct. 30th - Santa Ana Refuge

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Joy Nicholopoulos <[joy\\_nicholopoulos@fws.gov](mailto:joy_nicholopoulos@fws.gov)>  
**Date:** October 23, 2017 at 6:55:49 PM MDT  
**To:** Lance Wenger <[lance.wenger@sol.doi.gov](mailto:lance.wenger@sol.doi.gov)>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Meeting Oct. 30th - Santa Ana Refuge

More info below.

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Amy Lueders <[amy\\_lueders@fws.gov](mailto:amy_lueders@fws.gov)>  
**Date:** October 23, 2017 at 6:04:37 PM MDT  
**To:** Joy Nicholopoulos <[joy\\_nicholopoulos@fws.gov](mailto:joy_nicholopoulos@fws.gov)>, [aaron\\_archibeque@fws.gov](mailto:aaron_archibeque@fws.gov),  
**Subject:** Fwd: Meeting Oct. 30th - Santa Ana Refuge

Update. Aaron I have more updates for u and Kelly tomorrow

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) <[REDACTED]@cbp.dhs.gov>  
**Date:** October 23, 2017 at 6:49:40 PM CDT  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) <[REDACTED]@ios.doi.gov>, "[amy\\_lueders@fws.gov](mailto:amy_lueders@fws.gov)" <[amy\\_lueders@fws.gov](mailto:amy_lueders@fws.gov)>  
**Subject:** FW: Meeting Oct. 30th - Santa Ana Refuge

FYSA – We are scheduled to perform initial environmental surveys

at Santa Ana Refuge next week. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you.

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**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) )  
**Sent:** Monday, October 23, 2017 4:48 PM  
**To:** Winton, Bryan <[bryan\\_winton@fws.gov](mailto:bryan_winton@fws.gov)>  
**Cc:** Scot Edler <[scot\\_edler@fws.gov](mailto:scot_edler@fws.gov)>; Chris Perez <[chris\\_perez@fws.gov](mailto:chris_perez@fws.gov)>; Rob Jess <[robert\\_jess@fws.gov](mailto:robert_jess@fws.gov)>; Sonny Perez <[sonny\\_perez@fws.gov](mailto:sonny_perez@fws.gov)>; Ernesto Reyes <[ernesto\\_reyes@fws.gov](mailto:ernesto_reyes@fws.gov)>; Josh McEnany <[joshm@gsrcorp.com](mailto:joshm@gsrcorp.com)>; Chris Ingram <[cingram@gsrcorp.com](mailto:cingram@gsrcorp.com)>; (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7) @cbp.dhs.gov  
**Subject:** RE: Meeting Oct. 30th

Bryan,  
The leads for this task are Chris Ingram and Josh McEnany. I have cc'd them on this email. Here is their information:

Gulf South Research Corp.  
Address: 8081 Innovation Park Dr, Baton Rouge, LA  
70820  
Phone: (225) 757-8088

They are the same firm that are doing the surveys for the RVSS program.

Here's a summary of their scope of work:

The contractor will complete baseline surveys in support of U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) plan for construction of a levee wall along 2.93 miles of existing levee located within Hidalgo County, Texas. The contractor shall conduct the surveys along the existing levee and extend 200 feet from the edge of the levee road towards the Rio Grande River. Surveys will include the following:

- Biological Resources Survey to identify and map vegetation communities within the project area
- Cultural Resource Survey
- Wetland Delineation/Waters of the US Survey

Please let me know if you need any additional information.

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

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) , PMP, CEP  
Sr. Environmental Specialist  
LMI Government Consulting  
Border Patrol & Air and Marine Program Management Office (BPAM PMO)  
Facilities Management and Engineering

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Mobile: (b) (6), (b) (7)  
Mobile: (b) (6), (b) (7)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [cbp.dhs.gov](mailto:cbp.dhs.gov)

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legacy

**From:** Winton, Bryan [[mailto:bryan\\_winton@fws.gov](mailto:bryan_winton@fws.gov)]  
**Sent:** Friday, October 20, 2017 3:08 PM  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>  
**Cc:** Scot Edler <[scot\\_edler@fws.gov](mailto:scot_edler@fws.gov)>; Chris Perez <[chris\\_perez@fws.gov](mailto:chris_perez@fws.gov)>; Rob Jess <[robert\\_jess@fws.gov](mailto:robert_jess@fws.gov)>; Sonny Perez <[sonny\\_perez@fws.gov](mailto:sonny_perez@fws.gov)>; Ernesto Reyes <[ernesto\\_reyes@fws.gov](mailto:ernesto_reyes@fws.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: Meeting Oct. 30th

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

We will need the contact information, poc, address, phone #'s, etc. for GSRC so we can put together the Special Use Permit (SUP) for their biological surveys on Santa Ana NWR. Formality mostly given our working relations with CBP but it will be important to track this activity and to make sure the contractor knows our needs/expectations. The Wildlife Biologist that prepares the SUP's for the refuges will be in Austin on training next week so it will be Monday before I can have him work on this SUP, which hopefully he can have ready by the end of day or end of our meeting on Monday, Oct 30.

Also, if you have a brief description of the work the contractor is doing, we could use that to include in the SUP.

thanks  
bryan

On Fri, Oct 20, 2017 at 10:07 AM, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov> wrote:

The meeting is set for 2pm. The meeting is to go over the survey plans and make sure everyone is on the same page before starting the surveys.

Thanks!

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

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C), PMP, CEP  
Sr. Environmental Specialist  
LMI Government Consulting  
Border Patrol & Air and Marine Program Management Office (BPAM  
PMO)  
Facilities Management and Engineering

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
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Mobile: (b) (6), (b) (7)  
Mobile: (b) (6), (b) (7)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [cbp.dhs.gov](mailto:cbp.dhs.gov)

*Excel as a trusted strategic partner enhancing Border Patrol's  
proud legacy*

**From:** Reyes, Ernesto [mailto:[ernesto\\_reyes@fws.gov](mailto:ernesto_reyes@fws.gov)]  
**Sent:** Friday, October 20, 2017 11:05 AM  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [cbp.dhs.gov](mailto:cbp.dhs.gov); (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7) [@cbp.dhs.gov](mailto:cbp.dhs.gov)>  
**Subject:** Meeting Oct. 30th

What time are we meeting on Oct. 30th with GSRC at the  
Refuge?

Ernesto Reyes  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Alamo Ecological Service Sub-Office  
[3325 Green Jay Rd](mailto:3325.GreenJayRd@fws.gov)  
[Alamo, Texas 78516](mailto:Alamo.Texas.78516@fws.gov)  
[Tel:956-784-7560](tel:956-784-7560)  
Fax:956-787-8338

--

Bryan R. Winton, Wildlife Refuge Manager  
Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge  
Lower Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuge  
3325 Green Jay Road, Alamo, Texas 78516  
(956) 784-7521 office; (956) 874-4304 cell  
[bryan\\_winton@fws.gov](mailto:bryan_winton@fws.gov)

**"Maestas, Aislinn" <[aislinn\\_maestas@fws.gov](mailto:aislinn_maestas@fws.gov)>**

---

**From:** "Maestas, Aislinn" <[aislinn\\_maestas@fws.gov](mailto:aislinn_maestas@fws.gov)>  
**Sent:** Wed Oct 25 2017 08:17:46 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** Monica Kimbrough <[monica\\_kimbrough@fws.gov](mailto:monica_kimbrough@fws.gov)>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Meeting Oct. 30th - Santa Ana Refuge

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Date: Tue, Oct 24, 2017 at 10:08 AM

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

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

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

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [cbp.dhs.gov](#)

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bryan

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(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) <[@cbp.dhs.gov](mailto:(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)@cbp.dhs.gov)> wrote:

The meeting is set for 2pm. The meeting is to go over the survey plans and make sure everyone is on the same page before starting the surveys.

Thanks!

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(b) (7)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C), PMP, CEP  
Sr. Environmental Specialist  
LMI Government Consulting  
Border Patrol & Air and Marine Program Management Office (BPAM  
PMO)  
Facilities Management and Engineering

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

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

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

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [cbp.dhs.gov](mailto:cbp.dhs.gov)

*Excel as a trusted strategic partner enhancing Border Patrol's proud legacy*

**From:** Reyes, Ernesto [mailto:[ernesto\\_reyes@fws.gov](mailto:ernesto_reyes@fws.gov)]

**Sent:** Friday, October 20, 2017 11:05 AM

**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [cbp.dhs.gov](mailto:cbp.dhs.gov); (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7) [@cbp.dhs.gov](mailto:cbp.dhs.gov)>

**Subject:** Meeting Oct. 30th

What time are we meeting on Oct. 30th with GSRC at the Refuge?

Ernesto Reyes  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Alamo Ecological Service Sub-Office  
[3325 Green Jay Rd](http://3325GreenJayRd.com)  
[Alamo, Texas 78516](http://AlamoTexas78516.com)  
[Tel:956-784-7560](tel:956-784-7560)  
[Fax:956-787-8338](tel:956-787-8338)

--

Bryan R. Winton, Wildlife Refuge Manager  
Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge  
Lower Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuge  
[3325 Green Jay Road, Alamo, Texas 78516](http://3325GreenJayRoad.com)  
(956) 784-7521 office; (956) 874-4304 cell  
[bryan\\_winton@fws.gov](mailto:bryan_winton@fws.gov)

--

**Aislinn Maestas**  
Public Affairs Specialist  
External Affairs  
Southwest Region, US Fish and Wildlife Service  
Phone: 505-248-6599  
[aislinn\\_maestas@fws.gov](mailto:aislinn_maestas@fws.gov)

**"Kimbrough, Monica" <[monica\\_kimbrough@fws.gov](mailto:monica_kimbrough@fws.gov)>**

---

**From:** "Kimbrough, Monica" <[monica\\_kimbrough@fws.gov](mailto:monica_kimbrough@fws.gov)>  
**Sent:** Wed Oct 25 2017 09:21:07 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Maestas, Aislinn" <[aislinn\\_maestas@fws.gov](mailto:aislinn_maestas@fws.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: Meeting Oct. 30th - Santa Ana Refuge

I'll wait to hear from Kelly and Aaron since it sounds like they were suppose to talk about it. I will come up and chat with you about it tomorrow.

Monica

Monica Kimbrough  
Assistant Refuge Supervisor  
USFWS, National Wildlife Refuge System  
Southwest Region  
office: 505-248-7419  
cell: 505-366-4628

On Wed, Oct 25, 2017 at 8:17 AM, Maestas, Aislinn <[aislinn\\_maestas@fws.gov](mailto:aislinn_maestas@fws.gov)> wrote:

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

**From:** Joy Nicholopoulos <[joy\\_nicholopoulos@fws.gov](mailto:joy_nicholopoulos@fws.gov)>  
**Date:** Tue, Oct 24, 2017 at 10:08 AM  
**Subject:** Fwd: Meeting Oct. 30th - Santa Ana Refuge  
**To:** Aislinn Maestas <[aislinn\\_maestas@fws.gov](mailto:aislinn_maestas@fws.gov)>

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Joy Nicholopoulos <[joy\\_nicholopoulos@fws.gov](mailto:joy_nicholopoulos@fws.gov)>  
**Date:** October 23, 2017 at 6:55:49 PM MDT  
**To:** Lance Wenger <[lance.wenger@sol.doi.gov](mailto:lance.wenger@sol.doi.gov)>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Meeting Oct. 30th - Santa Ana Refuge

More info below.

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Amy Lueders <[amy\\_lueders@fws.gov](mailto:amy_lueders@fws.gov)>  
**Date:** October 23, 2017 at 6:04:37 PM MDT  
**To:** Joy Nicholopoulos <[joy\\_nicholopoulos@fws.gov](mailto:joy_nicholopoulos@fws.gov)>, [aaron\\_archibeque@fws.gov](mailto:aaron_archibeque@fws.gov)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Meeting Oct. 30th - Santa Ana Refuge

Update. Aaron I have more updates for u and Kelly tomorrow

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) <[REDACTED]@cbp.dhs.gov>  
**Date:** October 23, 2017 at 6:49:40 PM CDT  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) <[REDACTED]@ios.doi.gov>, "[amy\\_lueders@fws.gov](mailto:amy_lueders@fws.gov)" <[amy\\_lueders@fws.gov](mailto:amy_lueders@fws.gov)>  
**Subject:** FW: Meeting Oct. 30th - Santa Ana Refuge

FYSA – We are scheduled to perform initial environmental surveys at Santa Ana Refuge next week. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you.

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**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Monday, October 23, 2017 4:48 PM  
**To:** Winton, Bryan <[bryan\\_winton@fws.gov](mailto:bryan_winton@fws.gov)>  
**Cc:** Scot Edler <[scot\\_edler@fws.gov](mailto:scot_edler@fws.gov)>; Chris Perez <[chris\\_perez@fws.gov](mailto:chris_perez@fws.gov)>; Rob Jess <[robert\\_jess@fws.gov](mailto:robert_jess@fws.gov)>; Sonny Perez <[sonny\\_perez@fws.gov](mailto:sonny_perez@fws.gov)>; Ernesto Reyes <[ernesto\\_reyes@fws.gov](mailto:ernesto_reyes@fws.gov)>; Josh McEnany <[joshm@gsrscorp.com](mailto:joshm@gsrscorp.com)>; Chris Ingram <[c Ingram@gsrscorp.com](mailto:c Ingram@gsrscorp.com)>; (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) <[@cbp.dhs.gov](mailto:(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)@cbp.dhs.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Meeting Oct. 30th

Bryan,  
The leads for this task are Chris Ingram and Josh McEnany. I have cc'd them on this email. Here is their information:

Gulf South Research Corp.  
Address: [8081 Innovation Park Dr, Baton Rouge, LA 70820](#)  
Phone: (225) 757-8088

They are the same firm that are doing the surveys for the RVSS program.

Here's a summary of their scope of work:

The contractor will complete baseline surveys in support of U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) plan for construction of a levee wall along 2.93 miles of existing levee located within Hidalgo County, Texas. The contractor shall conduct the surveys along the existing levee and extend 200 feet from the edge of the levee road towards the Rio Grande River. Surveys will include the following:

- Biological Resources Survey to identify and map vegetation communities within the project area
- Cultural Resource Survey
- Wetland Delineation/Waters of the US Survey

Please let me know if you need any additional information.

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

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C), PMP, CEP  
Sr. Environmental Specialist  
LMI Government Consulting  
Border Patrol & Air and Marine Program Management Office (BPAM PMO)

Facilities Management and Engineering

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

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

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

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

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

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [cbp.dhs.gov](mailto:cbp.dhs.gov)

*Excel as a trusted strategic partner enhancing Border Patrol's proud legacy*

**From:** Winton, Bryan [[mailto:bryan\\_winton@fws.gov](mailto:bryan_winton@fws.gov)]

**Sent:** Friday, October 20, 2017 3:08 PM

**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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

**Cc:** Scot Edler <[scot\\_edler@fws.gov](mailto:scot_edler@fws.gov)>; Chris Perez

<[chris\\_perez@fws.gov](mailto:chris_perez@fws.gov)>; Rob Jess <[robert\\_jess@fws.gov](mailto:robert_jess@fws.gov)>;

Sonny Perez <[sonny\\_perez@fws.gov](mailto:sonny_perez@fws.gov)>; Ernesto Reyes

<[ernesto\\_reyes@fws.gov](mailto:ernesto_reyes@fws.gov)>

**Subject:** Re: Meeting Oct. 30th

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

We will need the contact information, poc, address, phone #'s, etc. for GSRC so we can put together the Special Use Permit (SUP) for their biological surveys on Santa Ana NWR. Formality mostly given our working relations with CBP but it will be important to track this activity and to make sure the contractor knows our needs/expectations. The Wildlife Biologist that prepares the SUP's for the refuges will be in Austin on training next week so it will be Monday before I can have him work on this SUP, which hopefully he can have ready by the end of day or end of our meeting on Monday, Oct 30.

Also, if you have a brief description of the work the contractor is doing, we could use that to include in the SUP.

thanks  
bryan

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**Sent:** Friday, October 20, 2017 11:05 AM

**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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What time are we meeting on Oct. 30th with GSRC at the Refuge?

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Alamo Ecological Service Sub-Office  
[3325 Green Jay Rd](http://3325GreenJayRd.com)  
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Aislinn Maestas  
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External Affairs  
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Phone: 505-248-6599  
[aislinn\\_maestas@fws.gov](mailto:aislinn_maestas@fws.gov)

**"Maestas, Aislinn" <[aislinn\\_maestas@fws.gov](mailto:aislinn_maestas@fws.gov)>**

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**Sent:** Wed Oct 25 2017 09:52:04 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Kimbrough, Monica" <[monica\\_kimbrough@fws.gov](mailto:monica_kimbrough@fws.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: Meeting Oct. 30th - Santa Ana Refuge

Sounds good!

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(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [cbp.dhs.gov](http://cbp.dhs.gov)  
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**Subject:** Re: Meeting Oct. 30th

(b) (6), (b)  
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Border Patrol & Air and Marine Program Management Office  
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Mobile: (b) (6), (b) (7)  
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(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) <(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)@cbp.dhs.gov>

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**From:** Reyes, Ernesto [mailto:[ernesto\\_reyes@fws.gov](mailto:ernesto_reyes@fws.gov)]

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(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) <(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)@cbp.dhs.gov>; (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7) <(b) (6), (b) (7)@cbp.dhs.gov>

**Subject:** Meeting Oct. 30th

What time are we meeting on Oct. 30th with GSRC at the Refuge?

Ernesto Reyes  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Alamo Ecological Service Sub-Office  
[3325 Green Jay Rd](#)  
[Alamo, Texas 78516](#)  
[Tel:956-784-7560](#)  
Fax:956-787-8338

--

Bryan R. Winton, Wildlife Refuge Manager  
Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge  
Lower Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuge  
[3325 Green Jay Road, Alamo, Texas 78516](#)  
[\(956\) 784-7521](#) office; [\(956\) 874-4304](#) cell  
[bryan\\_winton@fws.gov](mailto:bryan_winton@fws.gov)

--

**Aislinn Maestas**  
Public Affairs Specialist  
External Affairs  
Southwest Region, US Fish and Wildlife Service  
Phone: 505-248-6599  
[aislinn\\_maestas@fws.gov](mailto:aislinn_maestas@fws.gov)

--

**Aislinn Maestas**  
Public Affairs Specialist  
External Affairs  
Southwest Region, US Fish and Wildlife Service  
Phone: 505-248-6599  
[aislinn\\_maestas@fws.gov](mailto:aislinn_maestas@fws.gov)

# **Label: "Border Fence"**

**Created by:robert\_jess@fws.gov**

Total Messages in label:672 (227 conversations)

Created: 09-29-2017 at 11:46 AM

# Conversation Contents

Update on C2 meeting

**"Jess, Robert" <robert\_jess@fws.gov>**

---

**From:** "Jess, Robert" <robert\_jess@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri Sep 15 2017 08:53:06 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** Keenan Adams <keenan\_adams@fws.gov>, Aislinn Maestas <aislinn\_maestas@fws.gov>, kelly mcdowell <kelly\_mcdowell@fws.gov>  
**Subject:** Update on C2 meeting

I spoke with Sector Chief (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) this morning and the meeting with the C2 was at his request. The Sector Chief, Deputy Sector Chief (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) and PAIC (patrol agent in charge) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) of BP Weslaco Station will be at the meeting Saturday (as well as a host of other support staff I suspect). My plan for staff is for me only and Dawn Gardiner (ES) has requested Ernesto Reyes (dealt with last go around in late 2000's with fence).

--  
robert jess  
project leader  
south texas refuge complex  
alamo, texas

**"Adams, Keenan" <keenan\_adams@fws.gov>**

---

**From:** "Adams, Keenan" <keenan\_adams@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri Sep 15 2017 09:59:52 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Jess, Robert" <robert\_jess@fws.gov>  
**CC:** Aislinn Maestas <aislinn\_maestas@fws.gov>, kelly mcdowell <kelly\_mcdowell@fws.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Update on C2 meeting

Thanks. I know they wanted a small FWS footprint. I'll check with Joy next week about attendees

On Fri, Sep 15, 2017 at 8:53 AM, Jess, Robert <[robert\\_jess@fws.gov](mailto:robert_jess@fws.gov)> wrote:

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robert jess  
project leader

south texas refuge complex  
alamo, texas

--

Keenan Adams

**Acting** Assistant Regional Director - External Affairs  
August & September 2017  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service - Southwest Region  
Office: 505-248-6285

*Make everything as simple as possible, but not simpler. ~Albert Einstein*

# **Label: "Border Fence"**

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Total Messages in label:672 (227 conversations)

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# Conversation Contents

Re: Information request - Possible RD/Directors

**"Adams, Keenan" <keenan\_adams@fws.gov>**

---

**From:** "Adams, Keenan" <keenan\_adams@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue Sep 12 2017 13:47:57 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Ardizzone, Chuck" <chuck\_ardizzone@fws.gov>, Kelly McDowell <kelly\_mcdowell@fws.gov>, Robert Jess <robert\_jess@fws.gov>  
**CC:** Seth Willey <seth\_willey@fws.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Information request - Possible RD/Directors

Kelly and Chuck,

Any thoughts on this schedule?

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Attendees: (Amy, Aaron, & Kelly)

## **Thursday 9/21 Afternoon/Evening**

Arrive to McAllen, TX

*Logistics: Obtain Refuge SUV (Lead Robb Jess)*

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9:30am Arrive Corpus Christi ES Field Office (4444 Corona, Suite 215 Corpus Christi, TX 78411)

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U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

17629 El Camino Real, Ste 211

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**Sent:** Tue Sep 12 2017 13:57:46 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Adams, Keenan" <keenan\_adams@fws.gov>, Dawn Gardiner <dawn\_gardiner@fws.gov>  
**CC:** Kelly McDowell <kelly\_mcdowell@fws.gov>, Robert Jess <robert\_jess@fws.gov>, Seth Willey <seth\_willey@fws.gov>  
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## **"Adams, Keenan" <keenan\_adams@fws.gov>**

---

**From:** "Adams, Keenan" <keenan\_adams@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue Sep 12 2017 14:02:26 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Ardizzone, Chuck" <chuck\_ardizzone@fws.gov>  
**CC:** Dawn Gardiner <dawn\_gardiner@fws.gov>, Kelly McDowell <kelly\_mcdowell@fws.gov>, Robert Jess <robert\_jess@fws.gov>, Seth Willey <seth\_willey@fws.gov>  
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**"Gardiner, Dawn" <dawn\_gardiner@fws.gov>**

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**From:** "Gardiner, Dawn" <dawn\_gardiner@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue Sep 12 2017 14:07:01 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Adams, Keenan" <keenan\_adams@fws.gov>  
"Ardizzone, Chuck" <chuck\_ardizzone@fws.gov>, Kelly McDowell  
**CC:** <kelly\_mcdowell@fws.gov>, Robert Jess <robert\_jess@fws.gov>, Seth Willey <seth\_willey@fws.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Information request - Possible RD/Directors

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**E. Dawn Gardiner**  
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**P.O. Box 81468**  
**Corpus Christi, TX 78468-1468**

**(361) 994-9005 x 259**  
**(361) 533-6765 work cell**

**"Jess, Robert" <robert\_jess@fws.gov>**

---

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**Sent:** Tue Sep 12 2017 14:50:31 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Adams, Keenan" <keenan\_adams@fws.gov>  
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robert jess  
project leader  
south texas refuge complex  
alamo, texas

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**Sent:** Tue Sep 12 2017 15:06:20 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Jess, Robert" <[robert\\_jess@fws.gov](mailto:robert_jess@fws.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: Information request - Possible RD/Directors

We went to the grocery store with tacos...what was that place?

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~~7:30-8:00 meet with Staff (Lead R Jess)~~ likely no staff available to meet with...so they could report at 0800

7:55 Arrive at Santa Ana NWR

8:00-9:30 Tour Santa Borderlands (Lead R Jess)

9:30-10:00 final conversations prior to CBP meeting

10:30am-11:30? Meet with CBP Dep Commissioner

11:30am-12:30 Lunch at the taco place - Taqueria Deligencia? Heard that C2 may want to meet for lunch as well but not sure at this point...

12:30-? CFT brief with Boyd Blihovde (Kelly, thoughts?)

? Depart Santa Ana for the Airport

On Tue, Sep 12, 2017 at 2:47 PM, Adams, Keenan <[keenan\\_adams@fws.gov](mailto:keenan_adams@fws.gov)> wrote:

Kelly and Chuck,

Any thoughts on this schedule?

The intent of the trip is to meet with CBP, to see our impacted lands/facilities, and to meet with staff.

Attendees: (Amy, Aaron, & Kelly)

### **Thursday 9/21 Afternoon/Evening**

Arrive to McAllen, TX

*Logistics: Obtain Refuge SUV (Lead Robb Jess)*

### **Friday 9/22**

7:00am Depart McAllen

9:30am Arrive Corpus Christi ES Field Office (4444 Corona, Suite 215 Corpus Christi, TX 78411)

9:30-10:30am Field office visit, meet with staff (Lead Chuck)

10:30am Depart ES Field Office

10:30-11:00am Obtain Lunch "to-go" in Corpus Christie

11:00am to 1pm: En Route to Aransas NWR

1:00pm-3:30pm Arrive @ Aransas, tour impacted facilities, meet with staff (Lead Joe or Kelly)

3:30 Depart Aransas NWR

3:30-7:30 Travel back to McAllen, TX

### **Saturday 9/23**

7:00am depart McAllen

7:20 Arrive at Santa Ana NWR

7:30-8:00 meet with Staff (Lead R Jess)

8:00-9:30 Tour Santa Borderlands (Lead Robb Jess)

9:30-10:00 final conversations prior to CBP meeting

10:30am-11:30? Meet with CBP Dep Commissioner

11:30am-12:30 Lunch at the taco place(name)

12:30-? CFT brief with Boyd Blihovde (Kelly, thoughts?)

? Depart Santa Ana for the Airport

On Mon, Sep 11, 2017 at 9:12 AM, Keenan Adams <[keenan\\_adams@fws.gov](mailto:keenan_adams@fws.gov)> wrote:  
I'm still confirming the details. CBP keeps changing the date/time for their VIP border-wall visit. As of now, there will be a short ES FO visit Friday the 22nd. Sheehan just confirmed that he will NOT make it. As soon as I have a draft itinerary, we'll be sure to

share it.

Sent from my iPad

On Sep 11, 2017, at 9:01 AM, Ardizzone, Chuck <[chuck\\_ardizzone@fws.gov](mailto:chuck_ardizzone@fws.gov)> wrote:

Keenan,

heard through the grapevine that our New RD and possibly Greg Sheehan, may be visiting Texas next week to discuss Border issues and may be doing some site visits (possibly Corpus Christi ES office)? I was told you would be a good contact to check on this. Wondered if you could confirm this or not? If so do you have an itinerary?

Any information would be greatly appreciated.

**Chuck Ardizzone**  
Project Leader  
Texas Coastal Ecological Services  
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service  
17629 El Camino Real, Ste 211  
Houston, TX 77058  
W: (281) 286-8282 Ext 228  
C: (713) 882-1912  
F: (281) 488-5882

***"Leaders must learn to discipline their disappointments. It's not what happens to us, it is what we choose to do about what happens that makes the difference in how our lives turn out."***

***Jim Rohn***

***"If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader"***

***John Quincy Adams***

--

Keenan Adams

**Acting** Assistant Regional Director - External Affairs  
August & September 2017  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service - Southwest Region  
Office: 505-248-6285

*Make everything as simple as possible, but not simpler. ~Albert Einstein*

--

robert jess

project leader  
south texas refuge complex  
alamo, texas

--

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**"Adams, Keenan" <keenan\_adams@fws.gov>**

---

**From:** "Adams, Keenan" <keenan\_adams@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue Sep 12 2017 15:14:17 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Gardiner, Dawn" <dawn\_gardiner@fws.gov>, Kelly McDowell <kelly\_mcdowell@fws.gov>  
**CC:** "Ardizzone, Chuck" <chuck\_ardizzone@fws.gov>, Robert Jess <robert\_jess@fws.gov>, Seth Willey <seth\_willey@fws.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Information request - Possible RD/Directors

Based upon feedback, I've updated the agenda.

**Dawn**, any thoughts on Friday? Places where they can grab a quick lunch?

**Kelly**, would you like to be with them from McAllen (9/21) on. Or rendezvous with them in Aransas (9/22) then head back down with them?

**Robb** Amy would like to keep the meeting with CBP small.

RO Attendees: (Amy, Aaron, & Kelly)

#### **Thursday 9/21 Afternoon/Evening**

Arrive to McAllen, TX

*Logistics: Obtain Refuge SUV (Lead R Jess can meet them at airport to transfer GOV. We'll need Itinerary*

## Friday 9/22

7:00am Depart McAllen

9:30am Arrive Corpus Christi ES Field Office (4444 Corona, Suite 215 Corpus Christi, TX 78411)

9:30-10:30am Field office visit, meet with staff (Lead Chuck)

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10:30am-11:30 Meet with CBP Dep Commissioner (Attendees: Amy, Robb, Aaron, Kelly, & potential Law enforcement rep)

11:30am Depart for Lunch

11:45am-12:45pm Lunch at the taco place –( Taqueria Deligencia?) Potential Lunch with C2 may want to meet for lunch as well but not sure at this point...

12:45pm Schedule dependent (contingent on flights out of McAllen). If possible CFT brief. If not, postpone CFT brief for another time.

On Tue, Sep 12, 2017 at 2:07 PM, Gardiner, Dawn <[dawn\\_gardiner@fws.gov](mailto:dawn_gardiner@fws.gov)> wrote:

Thank you for this opportunity.

On Tue, Sep 12, 2017 at 3:02 PM, Adams, Keenan <[keenan\\_adams@fws.gov](mailto:keenan_adams@fws.gov)> wrote:

Hi Chuck,

Just a brief meet and greet. I think there will be an informal Q&A (no presentation). Amy wants to meet everyone, hear from them. There is a lot of road time that day, in normal circumstances, I would assume it would have been a longer meeting.

I'll be sure to cc Dawn on future correspondence.

On Tue, Sep 12, 2017 at 1:57 PM, Ardizzone, Chuck <[chuck\\_ardizzone@fws.gov](mailto:chuck_ardizzone@fws.gov)> wrote:

**Keenan,**

**What is the expectation for the RD's visit, just a meet and greet or a short presentation or both?**

**I have include Dawn on this email as she is stationed in Corpus. As much as I would like to be in Corpus on the 22nd I will not be available, I have leave scheduled on the 22nd and will be flying to Idaho.**

**Chuck Ardizzone**

Project Leader

Texas Coastal Ecological Services

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

17629 El Camino Real, Ste 211

Houston, TX 77058

W: (281) 286-8282 Ext 228

C: (713) 882-1912

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9:30-10:30am Field office visit, meet with staff (Lead Chuck) Should be Dawn.

10:30am Depart ES Field Office

10:30-11:00am Obtain Lunch "to-go" in Corpus Christi

11:00am to 1pm: En Route to Aransas NWR

1:00pm-3:30pm Arrive @ Aransas, tour impacted facilities, meet with staff (Lead Joe or Kelly)

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On Mon, Sep 11, 2017 at 9:12 AM, Keenan Adams <[keenan\\_adams@fws.gov](mailto:keenan_adams@fws.gov)> wrote:

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Sent from my iPad

On Sep 11, 2017, at 9:01 AM, Ardizzone, Chuck <[chuck\\_ardizzone@fws.gov](mailto:chuck_ardizzone@fws.gov)> wrote:

Keenan,

heard through the grapevine that our New RD and possibly Greg Sheehan, may be visiting Texas next week to discuss Border issues and may be doing some site visits (possibly Corpus Christi ES office)? I was told you would be a good contact to check on this. Wondered if you could confirm this or not? If so do you have an itinerary?

Any information would be greatly appreciated.

**Chuck Ardizzone**

Project Leader  
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Keenan Adams

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**E. Dawn Gardiner**  
**Assistant Field Supervisor**  
**Texas Coastal Ecological Services Field Office**  
**P.O. Box 81468**  
**Corpus Christi, TX 78468-1468**

**(361) 994-9005 x 259**  
**(361) 533-6765 work cell**

--  
Keenan Adams

**Acting** Assistant Regional Director - External Affairs  
August & September 2017  
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**"Adams, Keenan" <keenan\_adams@fws.gov>**

---

**From:** "Adams, Keenan" <keenan\_adams@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu Sep 14 2017 13:34:19 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Garcia, Stacey" <stacey\_garcia@fws.gov>, Aaron Archibeque <aaron\_archibeque@fws.gov>, "Lueders, Amy" <amy\_lueders@fws.gov>  
**CC:** Robert Jess <robert\_jess@fws.gov>, "Gardiner, Dawn" <dawn\_gardiner@fws.gov>, Kelly McDowell <kelly\_mcdowell@fws.gov>, Joy Nicholopoulos <joy\_nicholopoulos@fws.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Information request - Possible RD/Directors

All,

Below is the tentative schedule for the RGV visit. The portion of the last day is contingent upon travel plans.

**Thursday 9/21 Afternoon/Evening**

Arrive to McAllen, TX

*Logistics: Kelly will secure a SUV from STX Refuge. Will pick them up from the airport and stay at the same hotel.*

**Friday 9/22**

7:00am Depart McAllen

9:30am Arrive Corpus Christi ES Field Office (4444 Corona, Suite 215 Corpus Christi, TX 78411)

9:30-10:30am Field office visit, meet with staff (Lead Chuck) (Lunch will be selected from Jason's deli and picked up on the way out) [www.jasonsdeli.com/menu](http://www.jasonsdeli.com/menu) (Dawn will coordinate).

10:30am Depart ES Field Office

10:30-11:00am Obtain Lunch "to-go" in Corpus Christie

11:00am to 1pm: En Route to Aransas NWR

1:00pm-3:30pm Arrive @ Aransas, tour impacted facilities, meet with staff (Lead Joe or Kelly)

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7:55 Arrive at Santa Ana NWR

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11:45am-12:45pm Lunch at the taco place -( Taqueria Deligencia?) Potential Lunch with C2 may want to meet for lunch as well but not sure at this point...

12:45pm Schedule dependent (contingent on flights out of McAllen). If possible CFT brief. If not, postpone CFT brief for another time.

# **Label: "Border Fence"**

**Created by:robert\_jess@fws.gov**

Total Messages in label:672 (227 conversations)

Created: 09-29-2017 at 11:47 AM

# Conversation Contents

## C2 Visit to the Santa Ana Refuge

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>

---

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue Sep 05 2017 11:27:51 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "robert\_jess@fws.gov" <robert\_jess@fws.gov>  
**CC:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>  
**Subject:** C2 Visit to the Santa Ana Refuge

Good morning Mr. Jess,

As previously discussed, we were wondering if you are available on the afternoon of September 22, 2017 to meet with Deputy Commissioner (b) (6), (b) (7) at the Santa Ana Wildlife Refuge? As we receive more details, I will provide you with more information and a precise time.

Respectfully,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Special Operations Supervisor  
Communications Branch  
RGV Sector HQ  
O: (b) (6), (b) (7)  
C: (b) (6), (b) (7)  
(b) (6), (b) (7) @cbp.dhs.gov

---

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 29, 2017 3:10 PM  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>  
**CC:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>; (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>; (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @CBP.DHS.GOV>  
**Subject:** C2 Trip to McAllen

Good afternoon (b) (6)

Chief (b) (6), (b) (7) is requesting that Deputy Commissioner (b) (6), (b) (7) accompany Division Chiefs (b) (6), (b) (7) and (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) to attend the Spousal Academy Graduation on Thursday evening (b) (6), (b) (7)

On Friday, after the promotion ceremony, Chief (b) (6), (b) (7) would like that Deputy Commissioner (b) (6), (b) (7) receive an intel brief and then visit the Alpha 2 Aerostat Site in Penitas, Texas.

Please advise of any other requests or suggestions.

### Harlingen Station Spousal Academy Graduation

- **Date:** 09/21/2017
- **Time:** 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM
- **Location:** Harlingen Station at (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

- POC: Border Patrol Agent (BPA) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
- Note: This will be a graduation for Border Patrol Agent spouses.

**Promotion Ceremony/Presentation of the Badge of Bravery**

- Date: 09/22/2017
- Time: 9:00 AM – 10:30 AM
- Location: Weslaco Station (WSL) at (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
- POC: Supervisory Mission Support Specialist (b) (6), (b) (7)
- Note: AC (b) (6), (b) (7) will be keynote speaker; Senator John Cornyn's office will also be presenting the Congressional Badge of Bravery to Agents (b) (6), (b) (7) and (b) (6), (b) (7)(C). The presentation will take place in conjunction with the promotion ceremony.

**CBP Family Outreach Event**

- Date: 09/23/2017
- Time: 1:00 PM – 6:00 PM
- Location: State Farm Arena
- POC: MSS (b) (6), & CBP HQ
- Note: AC (b) (6), (b) (7) and DAC (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) will be heading event.

Respectfully,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
 Special Operations Supervisor  
 Communications Branch  
 RGV Sector HQ  
 C (b) (6), (b) (7)  
 C (b) (6), (b) (7)  
 (b) (6), (b) (7) @cbp.dhs.gov

---

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 29, 2017 8:41 AM  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @CBP.DHS.GOV>  
**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>  
**Subject:** C2 Trip to McAllen

Good Morning sir,

Deputy Commissioner (b) (6), (b) (7) will be traveling to McAllen the evening of September 21st-23rd. Do you have any suggestions for possible BP engagements while C2 is in the area?

Regards,

(b) (6), (b) (7)  
 U.S Customs and Border Protection  
 Office of the Commissioner  
 Cell: (b) (6), (b) (7)

---

**"Jess, Robert" <robert\_jess@fws.gov>**

**From:** "Jess, Robert" <robert\_jess@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue Sep 05 2017 11:51:34 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>

**Subject:**

Re: C2 Visit to the Santa Ana Refuge

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

Thanks for the heads up and yes, when you get more information as to time and what he would like to see- I would appreciate it. If this is only proposed fence base then I understand but I'd hope we could take the time to show the partnership here on the ground, especially the horse stables, the storefront, bike patrol and Maranoff Tract.  
robert

On Tue, Sep 5, 2017 at 12:27 PM, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov> wrote:

Good morning Mr. Jess,

As previously discussed, we were wondering if you are available on the afternoon of September 22, 2017 to meet with Deputy Commissioner (b) (6), (b) (7) at the Santa Ana Wildlife Refuge? As we receive more details, I will provide you with more information and a precise time.

Respectfully,

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

Special Operations Supervisor  
Communications Branch  
RGV Sector HQ

O (b) (6), (b) (7)

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

(b) (6), (b) (7) @cbp.dhs.gov

---

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Sent:** Tuesday, August 29, 2017 3:10 PM

**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>

**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>; (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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**Subject:** C2 Trip to McAllen

Good afternoon (b) (6)

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On Friday, after the promotion ceremony, Chief (b) (6), would like that Deputy Commissioner (b) (6), receive an intel brief and then visit the Alpha 2 Aerostat Site in Penitas, Texas. (b) (7)

Please advise of any other requests or suggestions.

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- **POC:** Border Patrol Agent (BPA) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
- **Note:** This will be a graduation for Border Patrol Agent spouses.

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- **Date:** 09/22/2017
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- **Location:** Weslaco Station (WSL) at (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
- **POC:** Supervisory Mission Support Specialist (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

- **Note:** AC (b) (6), (b) (7) will be keynote speaker; Senator John Cornyn's office will also be presenting the Congressional Badge of Bravery to Agents (b) (6), (b) (7) and (b) (6), (b) (7)(C). The presentation will take place in conjunction with the promotion ceremony.

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- **Date:** 09/23/2017
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- **Location:** State Farm Arena
- **POC:** MSS (b) (6), (b) (7) & CBP HQ
- **Note:** AC (b) (6), (b) (7) and DAC (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) will be heading event.

Respectfully,

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

Special Operations Supervisor

Communications Branch

RGV Sector HQ

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

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

(b) (6), (b) (7) [@cbp.dhs.gov](mailto:cbp.dhs.gov)

---

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**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [@CBP.DHS.GOV](mailto:cbp.dhs.gov)>

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Regards,

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

U.S Customs and Border Protection

Office of the Commissioner

Cell: (b) (6), (b) (7)

--  
robert jess  
project leader  
south texas refuge complex  
alamo, texas

---

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [@cbp.dhs.gov](mailto:cbp.dhs.gov)>

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [@cbp.dhs.gov](mailto:cbp.dhs.gov)>

**Sent:** Wed Sep 06 2017 10:42:38 GMT-0600 (MDT)

**To:** "Jess, Robert" <robert\_jess@fws.gov>  
**CC:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: C2 Visit to the Santa Ana Refuge

Good morning Mr. Jess,

We just received word that the Deputy Commissioner will not be available on the 22<sup>nd</sup> but would like to visit the Santa Ana Refuge the following morning. Would you be available on the 23<sup>rd</sup> around 10 AM?

Copying (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) for awareness and scheduling.

Respectfully,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Special Operations Supervisor  
Communications Branch  
RGV Sector HQ  
O: (b) (6), (b) (7)  
C: (b) (6), (b) (7)  
(b) (6), (b) (7) @cbp.dhs.gov

**From:** Jess, Robert [mailto:robert\_jess@fws.gov]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 05, 2017 12:52 PM  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @CBP.DHS.GOV>  
**Subject:** Re: C2 Visit to the Santa Ana Refuge

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

Thanks for the heads up and yes, when you get more information as to time and what he would like to see- I would appreciate it. If this is only proposed fence base then I understand but I'd hope we could take the time to show the partnership here on the ground, especially the horse stables, the storefront, bike patrol and Maranoff Tract.

robert

On Tue, Sep 5, 2017 at 12:27 PM, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov> wrote:

Good morning Mr. Jess,

As previously discussed, we were wondering if you are available on the afternoon of September 22, 2017 to meet with Deputy Commissioner (b) (6), (b) (7) at the Santa Ana Wildlife Refuge? As we receive more details, I will provide you with more information and a precise time.

Respectfully,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Special Operations Supervisor  
Communications Branch  
RGV Sector HQ  
O: (b) (6), (b) (7)  
C: (b) (6), (b) (7)  
(b) (6), (b) (7) @cbp.dhs.gov

---

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 29, 2017 3:10 PM

To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>  
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>; (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>; (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @CBP.DHS.GOV>  
Subject: C2 Trip to McAllen

Good afternoon (b) (6)

Chief (b) (6), is requesting that Deputy Commissioner (b) (6), accompany Division Chiefs (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) and (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) to attend the Spousal Academy (b) (7) Graduation on Thursday evening (b) (7) (c)

On Friday, after the promotion ceremony, Chief (b) (6), would like that Deputy Commissioner (b) (6), receive an intel brief and then visit the Alpha 2 Aerostat Site in Penitas, Texas. (b) (7)

Please advise of any other requests or suggestions.

### Harlingen Station Spousal Academy Graduation

- Date: 09/21/2017
- Time: 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM
- Location: Harlingen Station at (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
- POC: Border Patrol Agent (BPA) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
- Note: This will be a graduation for Border Patrol Agent spouses.

### Promotion Ceremony/Presentation of the Badge of Bravery

- Date: 09/22/2017
- Time: 9:00 AM – 10:30 AM
- Location: Weslaco Station (WSL) at (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
- POC: Supervisory Mission Support Specialist (b) (6), (b) (7)
- Note: AC (b) (6), will be keynote speaker; Senator John Cornyn's office will also be presenting the Congressional Badge of Bravery to Agents (b) (6), (b) (7) and (b) (6), (b) (7)(C). The presentation will take place in conjunction with the promotion ceremony.

### CBP Family Outreach Event

- Date: 09/23/2017
- Time: 1:00 PM – 6:00 PM
- Location: State Farm Arena
- POC: MSS (b) (6), & CBP HQ
- Note: AC (b) (6), and DAC (b) (6), will be heading event. (b) (7)

Respectfully,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Special Operations Supervisor  
Communications Branch  
RGV Sector HQ  
O: (b) (6), (b) (7)  
C: (b) (6), (b) (7)  
(b) (6), (b) (7) @cbp.dhs.gov

---

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Sent: Tuesday, August 29, 2017 8:41 AM  
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @CBP.DHS.GOV>  
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>  
Subject: C2 Trip to McAllen

Good Morning sir,

Deputy Commissioner (b) (6), (b) (7) will be traveling to McAllen the evening of September 21st-23rd. Do you have any suggestions for possible BP engagements while C2 is in the area?

Regards,

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

U.S Customs and Border Protection  
Office of the Commissioner  
Cell: (b) (6), (b) (7)

--

robert jess  
project leader  
south texas refuge complex  
alamo, texas

**"Jess, Robert" <robert\_jess@fws.gov>**

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**From:** "Jess, Robert" <robert\_jess@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Wed Sep 06 2017 12:22:00 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>  
**CC:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: C2 Visit to the Santa Ana Refuge

yes- I'm available

On Wed, Sep 6, 2017 at 11:42 AM, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov> wrote:

Good morning Mr. Jess,

We just received word that the Deputy Commissioner will not be available on the 22<sup>nd</sup> but would like to visit the Santa Ana Refuge the following morning. Would you be available on the 23<sup>rd</sup> around 10 AM?

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

Special Operations Supervisor  
Communications Branch  
RGV Sector HQ  
O (b) (6), (b) (7)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7) @cbp.dhs.gov

**From:** Jess, Robert [mailto:[robert\\_jess@fws.gov](mailto:robert_jess@fws.gov)]

Sent: Tuesday, September 05, 2017 12:52 PM

To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @CBP.DHS.GOV>

Subject: Re: C2 Visit to the Santa Ana Refuge

Robert,

Thanks for the heads up and yes, when you get more information as to time and what he would like to see- I would appreciate it. If this is only proposed fence base then I understand but I'd hope we could take the time to show the partnership here on the ground, especially the horse stables, the storefront, bike patrol and Maranoff Tract.

robert

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Respectfully,

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

Special Operations Supervisor  
Communications Branch

RGV Sector HQ

O: (b) (6), (b) (7)

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

(b) (6), (b) (7) @cbp.dhs.gov

---

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

Sent: Tuesday, August 29, 2017 3:10 PM

To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>

Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>; (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>; (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @CBP.DHS.GOV>

Subject: C2 Trip to McAllen

Good afternoon (b) (6), (b) (7),

Chief (b) (6), (b) (7) is requesting that Deputy Commissioner (b) (6), (b) (7) accompany Division Chiefs (b) (6), (b) (7) and (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) to attend the Spousal Academy Graduation on Thursday evening.

On Friday, after the promotion ceremony, Chief (b) (6), (b) (7) would like that Deputy Commissioner (b) (6), (b) (7) receive an intel brief and then visit the Alpha 2 Aerostat Site in Penitas, Texas.

Please advise of any other requests or suggestions.

#### Harlingen Station Spousal Academy Graduation

- Date: 09/21/2017
- Time: 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM
- Location: Harlingen Station at (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
- POC: Border Patrol Agent (BPA) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
- Note: This will be a graduation for Border Patrol Agent spouses.

#### Promotion Ceremony/Presentation of the Badge of Bravery

- **Date:** 09/22/2017
- **Time:** 9:00 AM – 10:30 AM
- **Location:** Weslaco Station (WSL) at (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
- **POC:** Supervisory Mission Support Specialist (b) (6), (b) (7)
- **Note:** AC (b) (6), (b) (7) will be keynote speaker; Senator John Cornyn's office will also be presenting the Congressional Badge of Bravery to Agents (b) (6), (b) (7) and (b) (6), (b) (7)(C). The presentation will take place in conjunction with the promotion ceremony.

#### CBP Family Outreach Event

- **Date:** 09/23/2017
- **Time:** 1:00 PM – 6:00 PM
- **Location:** State Farm Arena
- **POC:** MSS (b) (6), (b) (7) & CBP HQ
- **Note:** AC (b) (6), (b) (7) and DAC (b) (6), (b) (7) will be heading event.

Respectfully,

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

Special Operations Supervisor  
Communications Branch  
RGV Sector HQ

O: (b) (6), (b) (7)

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

(b) (6), (b) (7) [@cbp.dhs.gov](mailto:(b) (6), (b) (7)@cbp.dhs.gov)

---

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Sent:** Tuesday, August 29, 2017 8:41 AM

**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [@CBP.DHS.GOV](mailto:(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)@CBP.DHS.GOV)>

**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [@cbp.dhs.gov](mailto:(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)@cbp.dhs.gov)>

**Subject:** C2 Trip to McAllen

Good Morning sir,

Deputy Commissioner (b) (6), (b) (7) will be traveling to McAllen the evening of September 21st-23rd. Do you have any suggestions for possible BP engagements while C2 is in the area?

Regards,

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

U.S Customs and Border Protection  
Office of the Commissioner

Cell: (b) (6), (b) (7)

--

robert jess  
project leader  
south texas refuge complex  
alamo, texas

--  
robert jess  
project leader  
south texas refuge complex  
alamo, texas

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>

---

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu Sep 07 2017 07:43:08 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Jess, Robert" <robert\_jess@fws.gov>  
**CC:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: C2 Visit to the Santa Ana Refuge

Perfect, thank you!

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Special Operations Supervisor  
Communications Branch  
RGV Sector HQ  
O: (b) (6), (b) (7)  
C: (b) (6), (b) (7)  
(b) (6), (b) (7) @cbp.dhs.gov

**From:** Jess, Robert [mailto:robert\_jess@fws.gov]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 06, 2017 1:22 PM  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @CBP.DHS.GOV>  
**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: C2 Visit to the Santa Ana Refuge

yes- I'm available

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RGV Sector HQ  
O: (b) (6), (b) (7)  
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(b) (6), (b) (7) @cbp.dhs.gov

**From:** Jess, Robert [mailto:[robert\\_jess@fws.gov](mailto:robert_jess@fws.gov)]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 05, 2017 12:52 PM  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @CBP.DHS.GOV>  
**Subject:** Re: C2 Visit to the Santa Ana Refuge

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

Special Operations Supervisor  
Communications Branch  
RGV Sector HQ

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

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

(b) (6), (b) (7) @cbp.dhs.gov

---

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Sent:** Tuesday, August 29, 2017 3:10 PM

**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>

**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>; (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>; (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @CBP.DHS.GOV>

**Subject:** C2 Trip to McAllen

Good afternoon (b) (6)

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#### Harlingen Station Spousal Academy Graduation

- **Date:** 09/21/2017
- **Time:** 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM
- **Location:** Harlingen Station at (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
- **POC:** Border Patrol Agent (BPA) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

- **Note:** This will be a graduation for Border Patrol Agent spouses.

### Promotion Ceremony/Presentation of the Badge of Bravery

- **Date:** 09/22/2017
- **Time:** 9:00 AM – 10:30 AM
- **Location:** Weslaco Station (WSL) at (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
- **POC:** Supervisory Mission Support Specialist (b) (6), (b) (7)
- **Note:** AC (b) (6), (b) (7) will be keynote speaker; Senator John Cornyn's office will also be presenting the Congressional Badge of Bravery to Agents (b) (6), (b) (7) and (b) (6), (b) (7)(C). The presentation will take place in conjunction with the promotion ceremony.

### CBP Family Outreach Event

- **Date:** 09/23/2017
- **Time:** 1:00 PM – 6:00 PM
- **Location:** State Farm Arena
- **POC:** MSS (b) (6), & CBP HQ
- **Note:** AC (b) (6), (b) (7) and DAC (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) will be heading event.

Respectfully,

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

Special Operations Supervisor  
Communications Branch  
RGV Sector HQ

O: (b) (6), (b) (7)

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

(b) (6), (b) (7) @cbp.dhs.gov

---

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Sent:** Tuesday, August 29, 2017 8:41 AM

**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @CBP.DHS.GOV>

**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>

**Subject:** C2 Trip to McAllen

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Regards,

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

U.S Customs and Border Protection  
Office of the Commissioner

Cell: (b) (6), (b) (7)

--

robert jess  
project leader  
south texas refuge complex  
alamo, texas

--  
robert jess  
project leader  
south texas refuge complex  
alamo, texas

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>

---

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri Sep 08 2017 12:43:18 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Jess, Robert" <robert\_jess@fws.gov>  
**CC:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: C2 Visit to the Santa Ana Refuge

Good Afternoon Sir,  
Currently we have a visit to you scheduled for Saturday, September 23 from 10:30 - 11:30 AM with Deputy Commissioner(A) (b) (6), (b) (7) at the Santa Ana Refuge. Will you be available at that time, and will there be any one else attending this meeting?  
Can you please provide me with a good cell number to contact you for the itinerary?

Respectfully,

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

Protocol Officer ~ Communications Branch  
Rio Grande Valley Sector Border Patrol  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection

O: (b) (6), (b) C: (b) (6), (b)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) dhs.gov

**For immediate service, please send all requests to:**

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov

---

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 07, 2017 8:43 AM  
**To:** Jess, Robert <robert\_jess@fws.gov>  
**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: C2 Visit to the Santa Ana Refuge

Perfect, thank you!

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

Special Operations Supervisor  
Communications Branch  
RGV Sector HQ

O: (b) (6), (b) (7)

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

(b) (6), (b) (7) @cbp.dhs.gov

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**Subject:** Re: C2 Visit to the Santa Ana Refuge

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Special Operations Supervisor  
Communications Branch  
RGV Sector HQ

O: (b) (6), (b) (7)

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(b) (6), (b) (7) <(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)@cbp.dhs.gov>

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**Sent:** Tuesday, September 05, 2017 12:52 PM

**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) <(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)@CBP.DHS.GOV>

**Subject:** Re: C2 Visit to the Santa Ana Refuge

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

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

Special Operations Supervisor  
Communications Branch  
RGV Sector HQ

O: (b) (6), (b) (7)

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

(b) (6), (b) (7) <(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)@cbp.dhs.gov>

---

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Tuesday, August 29, 2017 3:10 PM

To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [redacted] @cbp.dhs.gov>

Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [redacted] @cbp.dhs.gov>; (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [redacted] @CBP.DHS.GOV>; (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [redacted] @cbp.dhs.gov>; (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [redacted] @CBP.DHS.GOV>

Subject: C2 Trip to McAllen

Good afternoon Josh,

Chief (b) (6), [redacted] is requesting that Deputy Commissioner (b) (6), [redacted] accompany Division Chiefs (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [redacted] and (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [redacted] to attend the Spousal Academy Graduation on Thursday evening.

On Friday, after the promotion ceremony, Chief (b) (6), [redacted] would like that Deputy Commissioner (b) (6), [redacted] receive an intel brief and then visit the Alpha 2 Aerostat Site in Penitas, Texas.

Please advise of any other requests or suggestions.

### Harlingen Station Spousal Academy Graduation

- Date: 09/21/2017
- Time: 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM
- Location: Harlingen Station at (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [redacted]
- POC: Border Patrol Agent (BPA) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [redacted]
- Note: This will be a graduation for Border Patrol Agent spouses.

### Promotion Ceremony/Presentation of the Badge of Bravery

- Date: 09/22/2017
- Time: 9:00 AM – 10:30 AM
- Location: Weslaco Station (WSL) at (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [redacted]
- POC: Supervisory Mission Support Specialist (b) (6), (b) (7) [redacted]
- Note: AC (b) (6), [redacted] will be keynote speaker; Senator John Cornyn's office will also be presenting the Congressional Badge of Bravery to Agents (b) (6), (b) (7) [redacted] and (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [redacted]. The presentation will take place in conjunction with the promotion ceremony.

### CBP Family Outreach Event

- Date: 09/23/2017
- Time: 1:00 PM – 6:00 PM
- Location: State Farm Arena
- POC: MSS (b) (6), [redacted] & CBP HQ
- Note: AC (b) (6), [redacted] and DAC (b) (6), [redacted] will be heading event.

Respectfully,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [redacted]  
Special Operations Supervisor  
Communications Branch  
RGV Sector HQ  
O: (b) (6), (b) (7) [redacted]  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [redacted]  
(b) (6), (b) (7) [redacted] @cbp.dhs.gov

---

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [redacted]

Sent: Tuesday, August 29, 2017 8:41 AM

To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [redacted] @CBP.DHS.GOV>

Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [redacted] @cbp.dhs.gov>

**Subject:** C2 Trip to McAllen

Good Morning sir,

Deputy Commissioner (b) (6), (b) (7) will be traveling to McAllen the evening of September 21st-23rd. Do you have any suggestions for possible BP engagements while C2 is in the area?

Regards,

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

U.S Customs and Border Protection  
Office of the Commissioner  
Cell: (b) (6), (b) (7)

--

robert jess  
project leader  
south texas refuge complex  
alamo, texas

--

robert jess  
project leader  
south texas refuge complex  
alamo, texas

**Robert Jess <robert\_jess@fws.gov>**

---

**From:** Robert Jess <robert\_jess@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri Sep 08 2017 16:05:21 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
keenan\_adams@fws.gov, kelly mcdowell  
**To:** <kelly\_mcdowell@fws.gov>, Sonny Perez  
<sonny\_perez@fws.gov>  
**Subject:** Fwd: C2 Visit to the Santa Ana Refuge

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>  
**Date:** September 8, 2017 at 1:43:18 PM CDT  
**To:** "Jess, Robert" <robert\_jess@fws.gov>  
**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @CBP.DHS.GOV>  
**Subject:** RE: C2 Visit to the Santa Ana Refuge

Good Afternoon Sir,

Currently we have a visit to you scheduled for Saturday, September 23 from 10:30 - 11:30 AM with Deputy Commissioner(A) (b) (6), (b) (7) at the Santa Ana Refuge. Will you be available at that time, and will there be any one else attending this meeting?

Can you please provide me with a good cell number to contact you for the itinerary?

Respectfully,

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

Protocol Officer ~ Communications Branch

Rio Grande Valley Sector Border Patrol

U.S. Customs and Border Protection

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

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

**For immediate service, please send all requests to:**

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

---

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Sent:** Thursday, September 07, 2017 8:43 AM

**To:** Jess, Robert <[robert\\_jeess@fws.gov](mailto:robert_jeess@fws.gov)>

**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [@cbp.dhs.gov](mailto:@cbp.dhs.gov)

**Subject:** RE: C2 Visit to the Santa Ana Refuge

Perfect, thank you!

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

Special Operations Supervisor

Communications Branch

RGV Sector HQ

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

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

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

**From:** Jess, Robert [[mailto:robert\\_jeess@fws.gov](mailto:robert_jeess@fws.gov)]

**Sent:** Wednesday, September 06, 2017 1:22 PM

**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [@CBP.DHS.GOV](mailto:@CBP.DHS.GOV)

**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [@cbp.dhs.gov](mailto:@cbp.dhs.gov)

**Subject:** Re: C2 Visit to the Santa Ana Refuge

yes- I'm available

On Wed, Sep 6, 2017 at 11:42 AM, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [@cbp.dhs.gov](mailto:@cbp.dhs.gov) wrote:

Good morning Mr. Jess,

We just received word that the Deputy Commissioner will not be available on the 22<sup>nd</sup> but would like to visit the Santa Ana Refuge the following morning. Would you be available on the 23<sup>rd</sup> around 10 AM?

Copying (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) for awareness and scheduling.

Respectfully,

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

Special Operations Supervisor

Communications Branch

RGV Sector HQ

O: (b) (6), (b) (7)

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

(b) (6), (b) (7) @cbp.dhs.gov

**From:** Jess, Robert [mailto:[robert\\_jess@fws.gov](mailto:robert_jess@fws.gov)]

**Sent:** Tuesday, September 05, 2017 12:52 PM

**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @CBP.DHS.GOV>

**Subject:** Re: C2 Visit to the Santa Ana Refuge

(b) (6),

(b) (7)

Thanks for the heads up and yes, when you get more information as to time and what he would like to see- I would appreciate it. If this is only proposed fence base then I understand but I'd hope we could take the time to show the partnership here on the ground, especially the horse stables, the storefront, bike patrol and Maranoff Tract.  
robert

On Tue, Sep 5, 2017 at 12:27 PM, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov> wrote:

Good morning Mr. Jess,

As previously discussed, we were wondering if you are available on the afternoon of September 22, 2017 to meet with Deputy Commissioner (b) (6), (b) (7) at the Santa Ana Wildlife Refuge? As we receive more details, I will provide you with more information and a precise time.

Respectfully,

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

Special Operations Supervisor

Communications Branch

RGV Sector HQ

O: (b) (6), (b) (7)

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

(b) (6), (b) (7) @cbp.dhs.gov

---

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Sent:** Tuesday, August 29, 2017 3:10 PM

**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>

**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>; (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>; (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @CBP.DHS.GOV>

**Subject:** C2 Trip to McAllen

Good afternoon (b) (6)

Chief (b) (6), (b) (7) is requesting that Deputy Commissioner (b) (6), (b) (7) accompany Division Chiefs (b) (6), (b) (7) and (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) to attend the Spousal Academy Graduation on Thursday evening.

On Friday, after the promotion ceremony, Chief (b) (6), (b) (7) would like that Deputy Commissioner (b) (6), (b) (7) receive an intel brief and then visit the Alpha 2 Aerostat Site in Penitas, Texas.

Please advise of any other requests or suggestions.

### Harlingen Station Spousal Academy Graduation

- **Date:** 09/21/2017
- **Time:** 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM
- **Location:** Harlingen Station at (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
- **POC:** Border Patrol Agent (BPA) Antonio Ibarra Jr.
- **Note:** This will be a graduation for Border Patrol Agent spouses.

### Promotion Ceremony/Presentation of the Badge of Bravery

- **Date:** 09/22/2017
- **Time:** 9:00 AM – 10:30 AM
- **Location:** Weslaco Station (WSL) at (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
- **POC:** Supervisory Mission Support Specialist (b) (6), (b) (7)
- **Note:** AC (b) (6), (b) (7) will be keynote speaker; Senator John Cornyn's office will also be presenting the Congressional Badge of Bravery to Agents (b) (6), (b) (7) and (b) (6), (b) (7)(C). The presentation will take place in conjunction with the promotion ceremony.

### CBP Family Outreach Event

- **Date:** 09/23/2017
- **Time:** 1:00 PM – 6:00 PM
- **Location:** State Farm Arena
- **POC:** MSS (b) (6), (b) (7) & CBP HQ
- **Note:** AC (b) (6), (b) (7) and DAC (b) (6), (b) (7) will be heading event.

Respectfully,

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

Special Operations Supervisor  
Communications Branch  
RGV Sector HQ

O: (b) (6), (b) (7)

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

(b) (6), (b) (7) [@cbp.dhs.gov](mailto:(b) (6), (b) (7)@cbp.dhs.gov)

---

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Sent:** Tuesday, August 29, 2017 8:41 AM

**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [@CBP.DHS.GOV](mailto:(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)@CBP.DHS.GOV)>

**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [@cbp.dhs.gov](mailto:(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)@cbp.dhs.gov)>

**Subject:** C2 Trip to McAllen

Good Morning sir,

Deputy Commissioner (b) (6), (b) (7) will be traveling to McAllen the evening of September 21st-23rd. Do you have any suggestions for possible BP engagements while C2 is in the area?

Regards,

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

U.S Customs and Border Protection  
Office of the Commissioner

Cell: (b) (6), (b) (7)

--  
robert jess  
project leader  
south texas refuge complex  
alamo, texas

--  
robert jess  
project leader  
south texas refuge complex  
alamo, texas

**"Adams, Keenan" <keenan\_adams@fws.gov>**

---

**From:** "Adams, Keenan" <keenan\_adams@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri Sep 08 2017 16:06:35 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** Robert Jess <robert\_jess@fws.gov>  
**CC:** kelly mcdowell <kelly\_mcdowell@fws.gov>, Sonny Perez <sonny\_perez@fws.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: C2 Visit to the Santa Ana Refuge

Rob,

Can you work on the site itinerary? I'll get the names of the folks attending.

On Fri, Sep 8, 2017 at 4:05 PM, Robert Jess <[robert\\_jess@fws.gov](mailto:robert_jess@fws.gov)> wrote:

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@cbp.dhs.gov>  
**Date:** September 8, 2017 at 1:43:18 PM CDT  
**To:** "Jess, Robert" <[robert\\_jess@fws.gov](mailto:robert_jess@fws.gov)>  
**Cc:** "(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@CBP.DHS.GOV>  
**Subject:** RE: C2 Visit to the Santa Ana Refuge

Good Afternoon Sir,

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Can you please provide me with a good cell number to contact you for the itinerary?

Respectfully,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
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Protocol Officer ~ Communications Branch

Rio Grande Valley Sector Border Patrol

U.S. Customs and Border Protection

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

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

**For immediate service, please send all requests to:**

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

---

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Sent:** Thursday, September 07, 2017 8:43 AM

**To:** Jess, Robert <[robert\\_ess@fws.gov](mailto:robert_ess@fws.gov)>

**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [@cbp.dhs.gov](mailto:@cbp.dhs.gov)>

**Subject:** RE: C2 Visit to the Santa Ana Refuge

Perfect, thank you!

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

Special Operations Supervisor

Communications Branch

RGV Sector HQ

O: (b) (6), (b) (7)

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

(b) (6), (b) (7) [@cbp.dhs.gov](mailto:@cbp.dhs.gov)

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**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [@cbp.dhs.gov](mailto:@cbp.dhs.gov)>

**Subject:** Re: C2 Visit to the Santa Ana Refuge

yes- I'm available

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(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [@cbp.dhs.gov](mailto:@cbp.dhs.gov)> wrote:

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Copying (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) for awareness and scheduling.

Respectfully,

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

Special Operations Supervisor

Communications Branch

RGV Sector HQ

O: (b) (6), (b) (7)

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

(b) (6), (b) (7) [@cbp.dhs.gov](mailto:@cbp.dhs.gov)

**From:** Jess, Robert [[mailto:robert\\_ess@fws.gov](mailto:robert_ess@fws.gov)]

**Sent:** Tuesday, September 05, 2017 12:52 PM

To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @CBP.DHS.GOV>  
Subject: Re: C2 Visit to the Santa Ana Refuge

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

Thanks for the heads up and yes, when you get more information as to time and what he would like to see- I would appreciate it. If this is only proposed fence base then I understand but I'd hope we could take the time to show the partnership here on the ground, especially the horse stables, the storefront, bike patrol and Maranoff Tract.  
robert

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Respectfully,

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

Special Operations Supervisor  
Communications Branch  
RGV Sector HQ  
O: (b) (6), (b) (7)  
C: (b) (6), (b) (7)  
E: (b) (6), (b) (7) @cbp.dhs.gov

---

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Sent: Tuesday, August 29, 2017 3:10 PM  
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>  
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>; (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>; (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @CBP.DHS.GOV>  
Subject: C2 Trip to McAllen

Good afternoon (b) (6)

Chief (b) (6), (b) (7) is requesting that Deputy Commissioner (b) (6), (b) (7) accompany Division Chiefs (b) (6), (b) (7) and (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) to attend the Spousal Academy Graduation on Thursday evening.

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Please advise of any other requests or suggestions.

#### Harlingen Station Spousal Academy Graduation

- Date: 09/21/2017
- Time: 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM
- Location: Harlingen Station at (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
- POC: Border Patrol Agent (BPA) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

- **Note:** This will be a graduation for Border Patrol Agent spouses.

### Promotion Ceremony/Presentation of the Badge of Bravery

- **Date:** 09/22/2017
- **Time:** 9:00 AM – 10:30 AM
- **Location:** Weslaco Station (WSL) at (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
- **POC:** Supervisory Mission Support Specialist (b) (6), (b) (7)
- **Note:** AC (b) (6), (b) (7) will be keynote speaker; Senator John Cornyn's office will also be presenting the Congressional Badge of Bravery to Agents (b) (6), (b) (7) and (b) (6), (b) (7)(C). The presentation will take place in conjunction with the promotion ceremony.

### CBP Family Outreach Event

- **Date:** 09/23/2017
- **Time:** 1:00 PM – 6:00 PM
- **Location:** State Farm Arena
- **POC:** MSS (b) (6), & CBP HQ
- **Note:** AC (b) (6), (b) (7) and DAC (b) (6), (b) (7) will be heading event.

Respectfully,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Special Operations Supervisor  
Communications Branch  
RGV Sector HQ  
C (b) (6), (b) (7)  
C (b) (6), (b) (7)  
(b) (6), (b) (7) @cbp.dhs.gov

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**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 29, 2017 8:41 AM  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @CBP.DHS.GOV>  
**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>  
**Subject:** C2 Trip to McAllen

Good Morning sir,

Deputy Commissioner (b) (6), (b) (7) will be traveling to McAllen the evening of September 21st-23rd. Do you have any suggestions for possible BP engagements while C2 is in the area?

Regards,

(b) (6), (b) (7)  
U.S Customs and Border Protection  
Office of the Commissioner  
Cell: (b) (6), (b) (7)

--  
robert jess  
project leader

south texas refuge complex  
alamo, texas

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robert jess  
project leader  
south texas refuge complex  
alamo, texas

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Keenan Adams

**Acting** Assistant Regional Director - External Affairs  
August & September 2017  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service - Southwest Region  
Office: 505-248-6285

*Make everything as simple as possible, but not simpler. ~Albert Einstein*

**Robert Jess <robert\_jess@fws.gov>**

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**From:** Robert Jess <robert\_jess@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri Sep 08 2017 16:09:52 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>  
**CC:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>, keenan\_adams@fws.gov  
**Subject:** Re: C2 Visit to the Santa Ana Refuge

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

I can be contacted anytime at 9077127153. I have CC:ed your email to our regional office point of contact Keenan Adams. It's suggested that our regional chief, regional director and possibly acting director may attend but confirmation will come from Mr. Adams.

Robert

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 8, 2017, at 1:43 PM, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov> wrote:

Good Afternoon Sir,

Currently we have a visit to you scheduled for Saturday, September 23 from 10:30 - 11:30 AM with Deputy Commissioner(A) (b) (6), (b) (7) at the Santa Ana Refuge. Will you be available at that time, and will there be any one else attending this meeting?

Can you please provide me with a good cell number to contact you for the itinerary?

Respectfully,

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

Protocol Officer ~ Communications Branch  
Rio Grande Valley Sector Border Patrol  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection

O: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) C: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [dhs.gov](mailto:dhs.gov)

**For immediate service, please send all requests to:**

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

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**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 07, 2017 8:43 AM  
**To:** Jess. Robert <[robert\\_iless@fws.gov](mailto:robert_iless@fws.gov)>  
**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [@cbp.dhs.gov](mailto:@cbp.dhs.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: C2 Visit to the Santa Ana Refuge

Perfect, thank you!

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Special Operations Supervisor  
Communications Branch  
RGV Sector HQ  
O: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
C: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [@cbp.dhs.gov](mailto:@cbp.dhs.gov)

**From:** Jess, Robert [[mailto:robert\\_iless@fws.gov](mailto:robert_iless@fws.gov)]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 06, 2017 1:22 PM  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [@CBP.DHS.GOV](mailto:@CBP.DHS.GOV)>  
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**Subject:** Re: C2 Visit to the Santa Ana Refuge

yes- I'm available

On Wed, Sep 6, 2017 at 11:42 AM, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [@cbp.dhs.gov](mailto:@cbp.dhs.gov)> wrote:

Good morning Mr. Jess,

We just received word that the Deputy Commissioner will not be available on the 22<sup>nd</sup> but would like to visit the Santa Ana Refuge the following morning. Would you be available on the 23<sup>rd</sup> around 10 AM?

Copying (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) for awareness and scheduling.

Respectfully,

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Special Operations Supervisor  
Communications Branch  
RGV Sector HQ  
O: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
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**Subject:** Re: C2 Visit to the Santa Ana Refuge

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

Thanks for the heads up and yes, when you get more information as to time and what he would like to see- I would appreciate it. If this is only proposed fence base then I understand but I'd hope we could take the time to show the partnership here on the ground, especially the horse stables, the storefront, bike patrol and Maranoff Tract.  
robert

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(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) <[@cbp.dhs.gov](mailto:(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)@cbp.dhs.gov)> wrote:

Good morning Mr. Jess,

As previously discussed, we were wondering if you are available on the afternoon of September 22, 2017 to meet with Deputy Commissioner (b) (6), (b) (7) at the Santa Ana Wildlife Refuge? As we receive more details, I will provide you with more information and a precise time.

Respectfully,

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

Special Operations Supervisor  
Communications Branch  
RGV Sector HQ  
O: (b) (6), (b) (7)  
C: (b) (6), (b) (7)  
(b) (6), (b) (7) <[@cbp.dhs.gov](mailto:(b) (6), (b) (7)@cbp.dhs.gov)>

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**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 29, 2017 3:10 PM  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) <[@cbp.dhs.gov](mailto:(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)@cbp.dhs.gov)>  
**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) <[@cbp.dhs.gov](mailto:(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)@cbp.dhs.gov)>; (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) <[@cbp.dhs.gov](mailto:(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)@cbp.dhs.gov)>; (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) <[@CBP.DHS.GOV](mailto:(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)@CBP.DHS.GOV)>  
**Subject:** C2 Trip to McAllen

Good afternoon (b) (6)

Chief (b) (6), (b) (7) is requesting that Deputy Commissioner (b) (6), (b) (7) accompany Division Chiefs (b) (6), (b) (7) and (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) to attend the Spousal Academy Graduation on Thursday evening.

On Friday, after the promotion ceremony, Chief (b) (6), (b) (7) would like that Deputy Commissioner (b) (6), (b) (7) receive an intel brief and then visit the Alpha 2 Aerostat Site in Penitas, Texas.

Please advise of any other requests or suggestions.

#### Harlingen Station Spousal Academy Graduation

- **Date:** 09/21/2017
- **Time:** 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM
- **Location:** Harlingen Station at (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
- **POC:** Border Patrol Agent (BPA) Antonio Ibarra Jr.
- **Note:** This will be a graduation for Border Patrol Agent spouses.

## Promotion Ceremony/Presentation of the Badge of Bravery

- **Date:** 09/22/2017
- **Time:** 9:00 AM – 10:30 AM
- **Location:** Weslaco Station (WSL) at (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
- **POC:** Supervisory Mission Support Specialist (b) (6), (b) (7)
- **Note:** AC (b) (6), (b) (7) will be keynote speaker; Senator John Cornyn's office will also be presenting the Congressional Badge of Bravery to Agents (b) (6), (b) (7) and (b) (6), (b) (7)(C). The presentation will take place in conjunction with the promotion ceremony.

## CBP Family Outreach Event

- **Date:** 09/23/2017
- **Time:** 1:00 PM – 6:00 PM
- **Location:** State Farm Arena
- **POC:** MSS (b) (6), (b) (7) & CBP HQ
- **Note:** AC (b) (6), (b) (7) and DAC (b) (6), (b) (7) will be heading event.

Respectfully,

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

Special Operations Supervisor  
Communications Branch  
RGV Sector HQ

O: (b) (6), (b) (7)

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

(b) (6), (b) (7) [@cbp.dhs.gov](mailto:(b) (6), (b) (7)@cbp.dhs.gov)

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**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Sent:** Tuesday, August 29, 2017 8:41 AM

**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [@CBP.DHS.GOV](mailto:(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)@CBP.DHS.GOV)>

**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [@cbp.dhs.gov](mailto:(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)@cbp.dhs.gov)>

**Subject:** C2 Trip to McAllen

Good Morning sir,

Deputy Commissioner (b) (6), (b) (7) will be traveling to McAllen the evening of September 21st-23rd. Do you have any suggestions for possible BP engagements while C2 is in the area?

Regards,

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

U.S Customs and Border Protection  
Office of the Commissioner

Cell: (b) (6), (b) (7)

--

robert jess  
project leader  
south texas refuge complex

| alamo, texas

--

robert jess  
project leader  
south texas refuge complex  
alamo, texas

## Robert Jess <[robert\\_jess@fws.gov](mailto:robert_jess@fws.gov)>

---

**From:** Robert Jess <[robert\\_jess@fws.gov](mailto:robert_jess@fws.gov)>  
**Sent:** Fri Sep 08 2017 16:11:32 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Adams, Keenan" <[keenan\\_adams@fws.gov](mailto:keenan_adams@fws.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: C2 Visit to the Santa Ana Refuge

Sure but it looks like we only have an hour or so and maybe lunch somewhere. It'll be easy if that's the case- I'm working with local BP PAIC to get BP bike patrol at our site...

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 8, 2017, at 5:06 PM, Adams, Keenan <[keenan\\_adams@fws.gov](mailto:keenan_adams@fws.gov)> wrote:

Rob,

Can you work on the site itinerary? I'll get the names of the folks attending.

On Fri, Sep 8, 2017 at 4:05 PM, Robert Jess <[robert\\_jess@fws.gov](mailto:robert_jess@fws.gov)> wrote:

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) <[REDACTED]@cbp.dhs.gov>  
**Date:** September 8, 2017 at 1:43:18 PM CDT  
**To:** "Jess, Robert" <[robert\\_jess@fws.gov](mailto:robert_jess@fws.gov)>  
**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) <[REDACTED]@CBP.DHS.GOV>  
**Subject:** RE: C2 Visit to the Santa Ana Refuge

Good Afternoon Sir,

Currently we have a visit to you scheduled for Saturday, September 23 from 10:30 - 11:30 AM with Deputy Commissioner(A) (b) (6), (b) (7) at the Santa Ana Refuge. Will you be available at that time, and will there be any one else attending this meeting?

Can you please provide me with a good cell number to contact you for the itinerary?

Respectfully,

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

Protocol Officer ~ Communications Branch  
Rio Grande Valley Sector Border Patrol  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
O (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) C: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [dhs.gov](mailto:dhs.gov)

**For immediate service, please send all requests to:**  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [@cbp.dhs.gov](mailto:@cbp.dhs.gov)

---

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 07, 2017 8:43 AM  
**To:** Jess, Robert <[robert\\_iless@fws.gov](mailto:robert_iless@fws.gov)>  
**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [@cbp.dhs.gov](mailto:@cbp.dhs.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: C2 Visit to the Santa Ana Refuge

Perfect, thank you!

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Special Operations Supervisor  
Communications Branch  
RGV Sector HQ  
O (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
C: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [@cbp.dhs.gov](mailto:@cbp.dhs.gov)  
(C)

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yes- I'm available

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Respectfully,

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Communications Branch  
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C: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [cbp.dhs.gov](mailto:cbp.dhs.gov)  
(C)

**From:** Jess, Robert [[mailto:robert\\_iless@fws.gov](mailto:robert_iless@fws.gov)]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 05, 2017 12:52 PM  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [@CBP.DHS.GOV](mailto:@CBP.DHS.GOV)>

**Subject:** Re: C2 Visit to the Santa Ana Refuge

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

Thanks for the heads up and yes, when you get more information as to time and what he would like to see- I would appreciate it. If this is only proposed fence base then I understand but I'd hope we could take the time to show the partnership here on the ground, especially the horse stables, the storefront, bike patrol and Maranoff Tract.

robert

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Communications Branch  
RGV Sector HQ  
C (b) (6), (b) (7)  
C (b) (6), (b) (7)  
(b) (6), (b) (7) @cbp.dhs.gov

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**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 29, 2017 3:10 PM  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov  
**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>; (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>; (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @CBP.DHS.GOV>  
**Subject:** C2 Trip to McAllen

Good afternoon (b) (6),  
(6)

Chief (b) (6), (b) (7) is requesting that Deputy Commissioner (b) (6), (b) (7) accompany Division Chiefs (b) (6), (b) (7) and (b) (6), (b) (7) to attend the Spousal Academy Graduation on Thursday evening.

On Friday, after the promotion ceremony, Chief (b) (6), (b) (7) would like that Deputy Commissioner (b) (6), (b) (7) receive an intel brief and then visit the Alpha 2 Aerostat Site in Penitas, Texas.

Please advise of any other requests or suggestions.

#### Harlingen Station Spousal Academy Graduation

- **Date:** 09/21/2017
- **Time:** 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM
- **Location:** Harlingen Station at (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

- **POC:** Border Patrol Agent (BPA) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
- **Note:** This will be a graduation for Border Patrol Agent spouses.

**Promotion Ceremony/Presentation of the Badge of Bravery**

- **Date:** 09/22/2017
- **Time:** 9:00 AM – 10:30 AM
- **Location:** Weslaco Station (WSL) at (b) (6), (b) (7)(C), (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
- **POC:** Supervisory Mission Support Specialist (b) (6), (b) (7)
- **Note:** AC (b) (6), (b) (7) will be keynote speaker; Senator John Cornyn's office will also be presenting the Congressional Badge of Bravery to Agents (b) (6), (b) (7) and (b) (6), (b) (7)(C). The presentation will take place in conjunction with the promotion ceremony.

**CBP Family Outreach Event**

- **Date:** 09/23/2017
- **Time:** 1:00 PM – 6:00 PM
- **Location:** State Farm Arena
- **POC:** MSS (b) (6), & CBP HQ
- **Note:** AC (b) (6), (b) (7) and DAC (b) (6), (b) (7) will be heading event.

Respectfully,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Special Operations Supervisor  
 Communications Branch  
 RGV Sector HQ  
 O: (b) (6), (b) (7)  
 C: (b) (6), (b) (7)  
 (b) (6), (b) (7) @cbp.dhs.gov \_\_\_\_\_

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**Sent:** Tuesday, August 29, 2017 8:41 AM  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @CBP.DHS.GOV>  
**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>  
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Good Morning sir,

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Regards,

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 U.S Customs and Border Protection  
 Office of the Commissioner  
 Cell: (b) (6), (b) (7)

robert jess  
project leader  
south texas refuge complex  
alamo, texas

--  
robert jess  
project leader  
south texas refuge complex  
alamo, texas

--  
Keenan Adams

**Acting** Assistant Regional Director - External Affairs  
August & September 2017  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service - Southwest Region  
Office: 505-248-6285

*Make everything as simple as possible, but not simpler. ~Albert Einstein*

**"Adams, Keenan" <keenan\_adams@fws.gov>**

---

**From:** "Adams, Keenan" <keenan\_adams@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri Sep 08 2017 16:12:36 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>  
**CC:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>, Robert Jess <robert\_jess@fws.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: C2 Visit to the Santa Ana Refuge

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

We'll work to get you a list of attendees ASAP. I'm expecting that our Regional Director [Amy Lueders](#), Regional Refuge Chief Aaron Archibeque, and a small chance that [Greg Sheehan](#), FWS Dep Director, will attend (still getting confirmation on that).

On Fri, Sep 8, 2017 at 4:09 PM, Robert Jess <robert\_jess@fws.gov> wrote:

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

I can be contacted anytime at 9077127153. I have CC:ed your email to our regional office point of contact Keenan Adams. It's suggested that our regional chief, regional director and possibly acting director may attend but confirmation will come from Mr. Adams.

Robert

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 8, 2017, at 1:43 PM, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov> wrote:

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Protocol Officer ~ Communications Branch  
Rio Grande Valley Sector Border Patrol  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection

O (b) (6), (b) (7) C: (b) (6), (b) (7)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) dhs.gov

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

Special Operations Supervisor  
Communications Branch  
RGV Sector HQ

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C (b) (6), (b) (7)  
(b) (6), (b) (7) @cbp.dhs.gov

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Special Operations Supervisor  
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RGV Sector HQ  
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**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @CBP.DHS.GOV>  
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Special Operations Supervisor  
Communications Branch  
RGV Sector HQ  
C: (b) (6), (b) (7)  
C: (b) (6), (b) (7)  
(b) (6), (b) (7) @cbp.dhs.gov

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**Sent:** Tuesday, August 29, 2017 3:10 PM  
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Chief (b) (6), (b) (7) is requesting that Deputy Commissioner (b) (6), (b) (7) accompany Division Chiefs (b) (6), (b) (7) and (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) to attend the Spousal Academy Graduation on Thursday evening.

On Friday, after the promotion ceremony, Chief (b) (6), (b) (7) would like that Deputy Commissioner (b) (6), (b) (7) receive an intel brief and then visit the Alpha 2 Aerostat (b) (6), (b) (7)

Site in Penitas, Texas.

Please advise of any other requests or suggestions.

### Harlingen Station Spousal Academy Graduation

- **Date:** 09/21/2017
- **Time:** 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM
- **Location:** Harlingen Station at (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
- **POC:** Border Patrol Agent (BPA) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
- **Note:** This will be a graduation for Border Patrol Agent spouses.

### Promotion Ceremony/Presentation of the Badge of Bravery

- **Date:** 09/22/2017
- **Time:** 9:00 AM – 10:30 AM
- **Location:** Weslaco Station (WSL) at (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
- **POC:** Supervisory Mission Support Specialist Diana Garza
- **Note:** AC Jacksta will be keynote speaker; Senator John Cornyn's office will also be presenting the Congressional Badge of Bravery to Agents (b) (6), (b) (7) and (b) (6), (b) (7)(C). The presentation will take place in conjunction with the promotion ceremony.

### CBP Family Outreach Event

- **Date:** 09/23/2017
- **Time:** 1:00 PM – 6:00 PM
- **Location:** State Farm Arena
- **POC:** MSS (b) (6), & CBP HQ
- **Note:** AC (b) (6), and DAC (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) will be heading event.

Respectfully,

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

Special Operations Supervisor

Communications Branch

RGV Sector HQ

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

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

(b) (6), (b) (7) @cbp.dhs.gov

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Sent:** Tuesday, August 29, 2017 8:41 AM

**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @CBP.DHS.GOV>

**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>

**Subject:** C2 Trip to McAllen

Good Morning sir,

Deputy Commissioner (b) (6), (b) (7) will be traveling to McAllen the evening of September 21st-23rd. Do you have any suggestions for possible BP engagements while C2 is in the area?

Regards,

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

U.S Customs and Border Protection

Office of the Commissioner

Cell: (b) (6), (b) (7)

--

robert jess  
project leader  
south texas refuge complex  
alamo, texas

--

robert jess  
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alamo, texas

--

Keenan Adams

**Acting** Assistant Regional Director - External Affairs  
August & September 2017  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service - Southwest Region  
Office: 505-248-6285

*Make everything as simple as possible, but not simpler. ~Albert Einstein*

**"Adams, Keenan"** <keenan\_adams@fws.gov>

**From:** "Adams, Keenan" <keenan\_adams@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri Sep 08 2017 16:13:54 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** Robert Jess <robert\_jess@fws.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: C2 Visit to the Santa Ana Refuge

Copy that. I trust your judgement on the logistics schedule. We'll have two visits. One with CBP and a FWS one **before** he visits (likely first thing Sat).

I'll work on the VIP stuff.

On Fri, Sep 8, 2017 at 4:11 PM, Robert Jess <[robert\\_jess@fws.gov](mailto:robert_jess@fws.gov)> wrote:

Sure but it looks like we only have an hour or so and maybe lunch somewhere. It'll be easy if that's the case- I'm working with local BP PAIC to get BP bike patrol at our site...

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 8, 2017, at 5:06 PM, Adams, Keenan <[keenan\\_adams@fws.gov](mailto:keenan_adams@fws.gov)> wrote:

Rob,

Can you work on the site itinerary? I'll get the names of the folks attending.

On Fri, Sep 8, 2017 at 4:05 PM, Robert Jess <[robert\\_jess@fws.gov](mailto:robert_jess@fws.gov)> wrote:

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) <(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)@cbp.dhs.gov>  
**Date:** September 8, 2017 at 1:43:18 PM CDT  
**To:** "Jess, Robert" <[robert\\_jess@fws.gov](mailto:robert_jess@fws.gov)>  
**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) <(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)@CBP.DHS.GOV>  
**Subject:** RE: C2 Visit to the Santa Ana Refuge

Good Afternoon Sir,

Currently we have a visit to you scheduled for Saturday, September 23 from 10:30 - 11:30 AM with Deputy Commissioner(A) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) at the Santa Ana Refuge. Will you be available at that time, and will there be any one else attending this meeting?

Can you please provide me with a good cell number to contact you for the itinerary?

Respectfully,

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

Protocol Officer ~ Communications Branch  
Rio Grande Valley Sector Border Patrol  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection

O: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) C: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)@dhs.gov

**For immediate service, please send all requests to:**  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)@cbp.dhs.gov

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 07, 2017 8:43 AM  
**To:** Jess, Robert <[robert\\_jess@fws.gov](mailto:robert_jess@fws.gov)>  
**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)@cbp.dhs.gov  
**Subject:** RE: C2 Visit to the Santa Ana Refuge

Perfect, thank you!

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Special Operations Supervisor  
Communications Branch  
RGV Sector HQ  
O: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
C: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)@cbp.dhs.gov

**From:** Jess, Robert [mailto:robert\_jess@fws.gov]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 06, 2017 1:22 PM  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @CBP.DHS.GOV>  
**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: C2 Visit to the Santa Ana Refuge

yes- I'm available

On Wed, Sep 6, 2017 at 11:42 AM, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov> wrote:

Good morning Mr. Jess,

We just received word that the Deputy Commissioner will not be available on the 22<sup>nd</sup> but would like to visit the Santa Ana Refuge the following morning. Would you be available on the 23<sup>rd</sup> around 10 AM?

Copying (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) for awareness and scheduling.

Respectfully,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Special Operations Supervisor  
Communications Branch  
RGV Sector HQ  
O (b) (6), (b) (7)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7) @cbp.dhs.gov

**From:** Jess, Robert [mailto:robert\_jess@fws.gov]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 05, 2017 12:52 PM  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @CBP.DHS.GOV>  
**Subject:** Re: C2 Visit to the Santa Ana Refuge

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

Thanks for the heads up and yes, when you get more information as to time and what he would like to see- I would appreciate it. If this is only proposed fence base then I understand but I'd hope we could take the time to show the partnership here on the ground, especially the horse stables, the storefront, bike patrol and Maranoff Tract.  
robert

On Tue, Sep 5, 2017 at 12:27 PM, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov> wrote:

Good morning Mr. Jess,

As previously discussed, we were wondering if you are available on the afternoon of September 22, 2017 to meet with Deputy Commissioner (b) (6), (b) (7) at the Santa Ana Wildlife Refuge? As we receive more details, I will provide you with more information and a precise time.

Respectfully,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Special Operations Supervisor  
Communications Branch  
RGV Sector HQ

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7) @cbp.dhs.gov

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 29, 2017 3:10 PM  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>  
**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>;  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>; (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @CBP.DHS.GOV>  
**Subject:** C2 Trip to McAllen

Good afternoon (b) (6)

Chief (b) (6), (b) (7) is requesting that Deputy Commissioner (b) (6), (b) (7) accompany Division Chiefs (b) (6), (b) (7) and (b) (6), (b) (7) to attend the Spousal Academy Graduation on Thursday evening.

On Friday, after the promotion ceremony, Chief (b) (6), (b) (7) would like that Deputy Commissioner (b) (6), (b) (7) receive an intel brief and then visit the Alpha 2 Aerostat Site in Penitas, Texas.

Please advise of any other requests or suggestions.

#### Harlingen Station Spousal Academy Graduation

- **Date:** 09/21/2017
- **Time:** 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM
- **Location:** Harlingen Station at (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
- **POC:** Border Patrol Agent (BPA) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
- **Note:** This will be a graduation for Border Patrol Agent spouses.

#### Promotion Ceremony/Presentation of the Badge of Bravery

- **Date:** 09/22/2017
- **Time:** 9:00 AM – 10:30 AM
- **Location:** Weslaco Station (WSL) at (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
- **POC:** Supervisory Mission Support Specialist (b) (6), (b) (7)
- **Note:** AC (b) (6), (b) (7) will be keynote speaker; Senator John Cornyn's office will also be presenting the Congressional Badge of Bravery to Agents (b) (6), (b) (7) and (b) (6), (b) (7)(C). The presentation will take place in conjunction with the promotion ceremony.

#### CBP Family Outreach Event

- **Date:** 09/23/2017
- **Time:** 1:00 PM – 6:00 PM
- **Location:** State Farm Arena
- **POC:** MSS (b) (6), (b) (7) & CBP HQ
- **Note:** AC (b) (6), (b) (7) and DAC (b) (6), (b) (7) will be heading event.

Respectfully,

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

Special Operations Supervisor  
Communications Branch

RGV Sector HQ

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

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

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Sent:** Tuesday, August 29, 2017 8:41 AM

**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [AN@CBP.DHS.GOV](mailto:AN@CBP.DHS.GOV)>

**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>

**Subject:** C2 Trip to McAllen

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Regards,

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

U.S Customs and Border Protection

Office of the Commissioner

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

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**Robert Jess <[robert\\_jess@fws.gov](mailto:robert_jess@fws.gov)>**

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**Sent:** Fri Sep 08 2017 16:22:56 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Adams, Keenan" <[keenan\\_adams@fws.gov](mailto:keenan_adams@fws.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: C2 Visit to the Santa Ana Refuge

Thanks Keenan- looking forward to getting caught up! You've experienced the ALDP Detail that legends are made of!

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 8, 2017, at 5:14 PM, Adams, Keenan <[keenan\\_adams@fws.gov](mailto:keenan_adams@fws.gov)> wrote:

Copy that. I trust your judgement on the logistics schedule. We'll have two visits. One with CBP and a FWS one **before** he visits (likely first thing Sat).

I'll work on the VIP stuff.

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**Date:** September 8, 2017 at 1:43:18 PM CDT  
**To:** "Jess, Robert" <[robert\\_jess@fws.gov](mailto:robert_jess@fws.gov)>  
**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) <(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)@CBP.DHS.GOV>  
**Subject:** RE: C2 Visit to the Santa Ana Refuge

Good Afternoon Sir,  
Currently we have a visit to you scheduled for Saturday, September 23 from 10:30 - 11:30 AM with Deputy Commissioner(A) (b) (6), (b) (7) at the Santa Ana Refuge. Will you be available at that time, and will there be any one else attending this meeting?  
Can you please provide me with a good cell number to contact you for the itinerary?

Respectfully,

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

Protocol Officer ~ Communications Branch  
Rio Grande Valley Sector Border Patrol  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection

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

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)@dhs.gov

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**Subject:** RE: C2 Visit to the Santa Ana Refuge

Perfect, thank you!

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

Special Operations Supervisor  
Communications Branch  
RGV Sector HQ

O (b) (6), (b) (7)

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Copying Ms. Creasy for awareness and scheduling.

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Special Operations Supervisor  
Communications Branch  
RGV Sector HQ  
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C: (b) (6), (b) (7)  
(b) (6), (b) (7) @cbp.dhs.gov  
(C)

**From:** Jess, Robert [mailto:[robert\\_jess@fws.gov](mailto:robert_jess@fws.gov)]  
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(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @CBP.DHS.GOV>  
**Subject:** Re: C2 Visit to the Santa Ana Refuge

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(b) (7)

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robert

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Respectfully,

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Special Operations Supervisor  
Communications Branch  
RGV Sector HQ  
C (b) (6), (b) (7)  
C (b) (6), (b) (7)  
(b) (6), (b) (7) @cbp.dhs.gov  
(C)

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 29, 2017 3:10 PM  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) <cbp.dhs.gov>  
**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>; (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>; (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @CBP.DHS.GOV>  
**Subject:** C2 Trip to McAllen

Good afternoon (b) (6)  
(6)

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Please advise of any other requests or suggestions.

#### Harlingen Station Spousal Academy Graduation

- **Date:** 09/21/2017
- **Time:** 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM
- **Location:** Harlingen Station at (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
- **POC:** Border Patrol Agent (BPA) (b) (6), (b) (7) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
- **Note:** This will be a graduation for Border Patrol Agent spouses.

#### Promotion Ceremony/Presentation of the Badge of Bravery

- **Date:** 09/22/2017
- **Time:** 9:00 AM – 10:30 AM
- **Location:** Weslaco Station (WSL) at (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
- **POC:** Supervisory Mission Support Specialist (b) (6), (b) (7) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
- **Note:** AC (b) (6), (b) (7) will be keynote speaker; Senator (b) (6), (b) (7)

John Cornyn's office will also be presenting the Congressional Badge of Bravery to Agents (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) and (b) (6), (b) (7)(C). The presentation will take place in conjunction with the promotion ceremony.

**CBP Family Outreach Event**

- **Date:** 09/23/2017
- **Time:** 1:00 PM – 6:00 PM
- **Location:** State Farm Arena
- **POC:** MSS (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) & CBP HQ
- **Note:** AC (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) and DAC (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) will be heading event.

**Respectfully,**

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Special Operations Supervisor  
Communications Branch  
RGV Sector HQ  
O: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
C: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 29, 2017 8:41 AM  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
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**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>  
**Subject:** C2 Trip to McAllen

Good Morning sir,

Deputy Commissioner (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) will be traveling to McAllen the evening of September 21st-23rd. Do you have any suggestions for possible BP engagements while C2 is in the area?

Regards,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
U.S Customs and Border Protection  
Office of the Commissioner  
Cell: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

--  
robert jess  
project leader  
south texas refuge complex  
alamo, texas

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Keenan Adams

**Acting** Assistant Regional Director - External Affairs  
August & September 2017  
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**"Adams, Keenan" <keenan\_adams@fws.gov>**

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**From:** "Adams, Keenan" <keenan\_adams@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue Sep 12 2017 13:26:32 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>  
**CC:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>, Robert Jess <robert\_jess@fws.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: C2 Visit to the Santa Ana Refuge

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

I got confirmation that our Deputy Director, Greg Sheehan, will **NOT** be attending.

Are we still confirmed for 10am on September 23rd @ Santa Ana NWR?

On Fri, Sep 8, 2017 at 4:12 PM, Adams, Keenan <[keenan\\_adams@fws.gov](mailto:keenan_adams@fws.gov)> wrote:

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

We'll work to get you a list of attendees ASAP. I'm expecting that our Regional Director [Amy Lueders](#), Regional Refuge Chief Aaron Archibeque, and a small chance that [Greg Sheehan](#), FWS Dep Director, will attend (still getting confirmation on that).

On Fri, Sep 8, 2017 at 4:09 PM, Robert Jess <[robert\\_jess@fws.gov](mailto:robert_jess@fws.gov)> wrote:

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

I can be contacted anytime at 9077127153. I have CC:ed your email to our regional office point of contact Keenan Adams. It's suggested that our regional chief, regional director and possibly acting director may attend but confirmation will come from Mr. Adams.

Robert

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 8, 2017, at 1:43 PM, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) <[@cbp.dhs.gov](mailto:(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)@cbp.dhs.gov)> wrote:

Good Afternoon Sir,

Currently we have a visit to you scheduled for Saturday, September 23 from 10:30 - 11:30 AM with Deputy Commissioner(A) (b) (6), (b) (7) at the Santa Ana Refuge. Will you be available at that time, and will there be any one else attending this meeting?

Can you please provide me with a good cell number to contact you for the itinerary?

Respectfully,

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

Protocol Officer ~ Communications Branch

Rio Grande Valley Sector Border Patrol

U.S. Customs and Border Protection

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

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

**For immediate service, please send all requests to:**

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

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

Sent: Thursday, September 07, 2017 8:43 AM

To: Jess, Robert <[robert\\_jess@fws.gov](mailto:robert_jess@fws.gov)>

Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [@cbp.dhs.gov](mailto:(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)@cbp.dhs.gov)

Subject: RE: C2 Visit to the Santa Ana Refuge

Perfect, thank you!

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

Special Operations Supervisor

Communications Branch

RGV Sector HQ

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

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

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

From: Jess, Robert [[mailto:robert\\_jess@fws.gov](mailto:robert_jess@fws.gov)]

**Sent:** Wednesday, September 06, 2017 1:22 PM  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @CBP.DHS.GOV>  
**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: C2 Visit to the Santa Ana Refuge

yes- I'm available

On Wed, Sep 6, 2017 at 11:42 AM, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov> wrote:

Good morning Mr. Jess,

We just received word that the Deputy Commissioner will not be available on the 22<sup>nd</sup> but would like to visit the Santa Ana Refuge the following morning. Would you be available on the 23<sup>rd</sup> around 10 AM?

Copying (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) for awareness and scheduling.

Respectfully,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Special Operations Supervisor  
Communications Branch  
RGV Sector HQ  
O: (b) (6), (b) (7)  
C: (b) (6), (b) (7)  
(b) (6), (b) (7) @cbp.dhs.gov

**From:** Jess, Robert [mailto:robert\_jess@fws.gov]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 05, 2017 12:52 PM  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @CBP.DHS.GOV>  
**Subject:** Re: C2 Visit to the Santa Ana Refuge

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

Thanks for the heads up and yes, when you get more information as to time and what he would like to see- I would appreciate it. If this is only proposed fence base then I understand but I'd hope we could take the time to show the partnership here on the ground, especially the horse stables, the storefront, bike patrol and Maranoff Tract.  
robert

On Tue, Sep 5, 2017 at 12:27 PM, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov> wrote:

Good morning Mr. Jess,

As previously discussed, we were wondering if you are available on the afternoon of September 22, 2017 to meet with Deputy Commissioner (b) (6), (b) (7) at the Santa Ana Wildlife Refuge? As we receive more details, I will provide you with more information and a precise time.

Respectfully,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Special Operations Supervisor  
Communications Branch  
RGV Sector HQ  
O: (b) (6), (b) (7)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)

C: (b) (6), (b) (7)  
(b) (6), (b) (7) @cbp.dhs.gov

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 29, 2017 3:10 PM  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>  
**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>; (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>; (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @CBP.DHS.GOV>  
**Subject:** C2 Trip to McAllen

Good afternoon (b) (6)

Chief (b) (6), (b) (7) is requesting that Deputy Commissioner (b) (6), (b) (7) accompany Division Chiefs (b) (6), (b) (7) and (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) to attend the Spousal Academy Graduation on Thursday evening.

On Friday, after the promotion ceremony, Chief (b) (6), (b) (7) would like that Deputy Commissioner (b) (6), (b) (7) receive an intel brief and then visit the Alpha 2 Aerostat Site in Penitas, Texas.

Please advise of any other requests or suggestions.

#### Harlingen Station Spousal Academy Graduation

- **Date:** 09/21/2017
- **Time:** 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM
- **Location:** Harlingen Station at (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
- **POC:** Border Patrol Agent (BPA) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
- **Note:** This will be a graduation for Border Patrol Agent spouses.

#### Promotion Ceremony/Presentation of the Badge of Bravery

- **Date:** 09/22/2017
- **Time:** 9:00 AM – 10:30 AM
- **Location:** Weslaco Station (WSL) at (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
- **POC:** Supervisory Mission Support Specialist (b) (6), (b) (7)
- **Note:** AC (b) (6), (b) (7) will be keynote speaker; Senator John Cornyn's office will also be presenting the Congressional Badge of Bravery to Agents (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) and (b) (6), (b) (7)(C). The presentation will take place in conjunction with the promotion ceremony.

#### CBP Family Outreach Event

- **Date:** 09/23/2017
- **Time:** 1:00 PM – 6:00 PM
- **Location:** State Farm Arena
- **POC:** MSS (b) (6), (b) (7) & CBP HQ
- **Note:** AC (b) (6), (b) (7) and DAC (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) will be heading event.

Respectfully,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Special Operations Supervisor  
Communications Branch  
RGV Sector HQ  
C: (b) (6), (b) (7)

C: (b) (6), (b) (7)  
(b) (6), (b) (7) @cbp.dhs.gov

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 29, 2017 8:41 AM  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @CBP.DHS.GOV>  
**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>  
**Subject:** C2 Trip to McAllen

Good Morning sir,

Deputy Commissioner (b) (6), (b) (7) will be traveling to McAllen the evening of September 21st-23rd. Do you have any suggestions for possible BP engagements while C2 is in the area?

Regards,

(b) (6), (b) (7)  
U.S Customs and Border Protection  
Office of the Commissioner  
Cell: (b) (6), (b) (7)

--  
robert jess  
project leader  
south texas refuge complex  
alamo, texas

--  
robert jess  
project leader  
south texas refuge complex  
alamo, texas

--  
Keenan Adams

Acting Assistant Regional Director - External Affairs  
August & September 2017  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service - Southwest Region  
Office: 505-248-6285

*Make everything as simple as possible, but not simpler. ~Albert Einstein*

--

Keenan Adams

**Acting** Assistant Regional Director - External Affairs  
August & September 2017  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service - Southwest Region  
Office: 505-248-6285

*Make everything as simple as possible, but not simpler. ~Albert Einstein*

# **Label: "Border Patrol/Border Patrol FOIA 2017 (2)"**

**Created by:bryan\_winton@fws.gov**

Total Messages in label:233 (49 conversations)

Created: 09-25-2017 at 06:34 AM

# Conversation Contents

Fwd: Boring/Soil Sampling

**"Jess, Robert" <robert\_jess@fws.gov>**

---

**From:** "Jess, Robert" <robert\_jess@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu Aug 31 2017 07:54:25 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** kelly mcdowell <kelly\_mcdowell@fws.gov>  
Monica Kimbrough <monica\_kimbrough@fws.gov>, Sonny Perez <sonny\_perez@fws.gov>, Bryan Winton <bryan\_winton@fws.gov>, Aislinn Maestas <aislinn\_maestas@fws.gov>, Keenan Adams <keenan\_adams@fws.gov>  
**CC:**  
**Subject:** Fwd: Boring/Soil Sampling

FYI- if media or others begin to question activities occurring along Santa Ana Refuge.

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

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>  
Date: Wed, Aug 30, 2017 at 4:50 PM  
Subject: Boring/Soil Sampling  
To: "Jess, Robert" <robert\_jess@fws.gov>  
Cc: "Edler, Scot" <scot\_edler@fws.gov>, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>

Rob,

Baker International will be conducting follow up boring/soil sampling on the levee near the Santa Ana Refuge on Friday and Saturday (9/1 & 9/2). The drillers will be in the following vehicles:

- White 2011 Ford F-150
- White 2012 Ford F-250
- 2007 GMC with grey rig on back

The drillers have three sites picked out near the below landmarks:

- West End

- East End (200 yard from the end)
- Pedestrian walkway (will not interfere with visitors)

I'll provide additional updates as they become available.

Respectfully,

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

(A)Special Operations Supervisor

RGV Sector Wall Project Delivery Team

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

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

"Become the kind of leader that people would follow voluntarily, even if you had no title or position." --*Brian Tracy*

--  
robert jess  
project leader  
south texas refuge complex  
alamo, texas

**"Adams, Keenan" <keenan\_adams@fws.gov>**

---

**From:** "Adams, Keenan" <keenan\_adams@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu Aug 31 2017 07:59:10 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Jess, Robert" <robert\_jess@fws.gov>  
kelly mcdowell <kelly\_mcdowell@fws.gov>, Monica Kimbrough  
<monica\_kimbrough@fws.gov>, Sonny Perez  
**CC:** <sonny\_perez@fws.gov>, Bryan Winton  
<bryan\_winton@fws.gov>, Aislinn Maestas  
<aislinn\_maestas@fws.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Boring/Soil Sampling

We have updated background information that we can discuss with the media, so Aislinn can provide more info if the media inquires. Please send media her way if you get anything.

On Thu, Aug 31, 2017 at 7:54 AM, Jess, Robert <[robert\\_jess@fws.gov](mailto:robert_jess@fws.gov)> wrote:

FYI- if media or others begin to question activities occurring along Santa Ana Refuge.

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

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>  
Date: Wed, Aug 30, 2017 at 4:50 PM  
Subject: Boring/Soil Sampling  
To: "Jess, Robert" <robert\_jess@fws.gov>  
Cc: "Edler, Scot" <scot\_edler@fws.gov>, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>

Rob,

Baker International will be conducting follow up boring/soil sampling on the levee near the Santa Ana Refuge on Friday and Saturday (9/1 & 9/2). The drillers will be in the following vehicles:

- White 2011 Ford F-150
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The drillers have three sites picked out near the below landmarks:

- West End
- East End (200 yard from the end)
- Pedestrian walkway (will not interfere with visitors)

I'll provide additional updates as they become available.

Respectfully,

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

(A)Special Operations Supervisor

RGV Sector Wall Project Delivery Team

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

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

"Become the kind of leader that people would follow voluntarily, even if you had no title or position." --Brian Tracy

--

robert jess  
project leader  
south texas refuge complex  
alamo, texas

--

Keenan Adams

**Acting** Assistant Regional Director - External Affairs  
August & September 2017  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service - Southwest Region  
Office: 505-248-6285

*Make everything as simple as possible, but not simpler. ~Albert Einstein*

**"Winton, Bryan" <bryan\_winton@fws.gov>**

---

**From:** "Winton, Bryan" <bryan\_winton@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue Sep 05 2017 12:36:47 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** Lety Handy <lety\_handy@fws.gov>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Boring/Soil Sampling

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

From: **Jess, Robert** <[robert\\_jess@fws.gov](mailto:robert_jess@fws.gov)>  
Date: Thu, Aug 31, 2017 at 8:54 AM  
Subject: Fwd: Boring/Soil Sampling  
To: kelly mcdowell <[kelly\\_mcdowell@fws.gov](mailto:kelly_mcdowell@fws.gov)>  
Cc: Monica Kimbrough <[monica\\_kimbrough@fws.gov](mailto:monica_kimbrough@fws.gov)>, Sonny Perez <[sonny\\_perez@fws.gov](mailto:sonny_perez@fws.gov)>, Bryan Winton <[bryan\\_winton@fws.gov](mailto:bryan_winton@fws.gov)>, Aislinn Maestas <[aislinn\\_maestas@fws.gov](mailto:aislinn_maestas@fws.gov)>, Keenan Adams <[keenan\\_adams@fws.gov](mailto:keenan_adams@fws.gov)>

FYI- if media or others begin to question activities occurring along Santa Ana Refuge.

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

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) <[@cbp.dhs.gov](mailto:(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)@cbp.dhs.gov)>  
Date: Wed, Aug 30, 2017 at 4:50 PM

Subject: Boring/Soil Sampling

To: "Jess, Robert" <[robert\\_jess@fws.gov](mailto:robert_jess@fws.gov)>

Cc: "Edler, Scot" <[scot\\_edler@fws.gov](mailto:scot_edler@fws.gov)> (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Rob,

Baker International will be conducting follow up boring/soil sampling on the levee near the Santa Ana Refuge on Friday and Saturday (9/1 & 9/2). The drillers will be in the following vehicles:

- White 2011 Ford F-150
- White 2012 Ford F-250
- 2007 GMC with grey rig on back

The drillers have three sites picked out near the below landmarks:

- West End
- East End (200 yard from the end)
- Pedestrian walkway (will not interfere with visitors)

I'll provide additional updates as they become available.

Respectfully,

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

(A)Special Operations Supervisor

RGV Sector Wall Project Delivery Team

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

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

"Become the kind of leader that people would follow voluntarily, even if you had no title or position." --Brian Tracy

--

robert jess  
project leader  
south texas refuge complex  
alamo, texas

--

Bryan R. Winton, Wildlife Refuge Manager  
Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge  
Lower Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuge  
3325 Green Jay Road, Alamo, Texas 78516  
(956) 784-7521 office; (956) 874-4304 cell  
[bryan\\_winton@fws.gov](mailto:bryan_winton@fws.gov)

# **Label: "Border Wall"**

**Created by: [aislinn\\_maestas@fws.gov](mailto:aislinn_maestas@fws.gov)**

Total Messages in label: 361 (98 conversations)

Created: 04-12-2018 at 12:46 PM

# Conversation Contents

**FYI: Update on HAC & Border Patrol visit to Santa Ana NWR 10/18/17**

**Attachments:**

/9. FYI: Update on HAC & Border Patrol visit to Santa Ana NWR 10/18/17/1.1  
STAFFDEL REQUEST - HAC RGV and Laredo TX Oct 16-20 2017.doc

**"Tincher, Chris" <chris\_tincher@fws.gov>**

---

**From:** "Tincher, Chris" <chris\_tincher@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu Oct 19 2017 09:18:22 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** Beth Ullenberg <beth\_ullenberg@fws.gov>, Lesli Gray <lesli\_gray@fws.gov>, John Bradley <john\_bradley@fws.gov>, Aislinn Maestas <aislinn\_maestas@fws.gov>  
**Subject:** FYI: Update on HAC & Border Patrol visit to Santa Ana NWR 10/18/17  
**Attachments:** STAFFDEL REQUEST - HAC RGV and Laredo TX Oct 16-20 2017.doc

FYI - Report on Approps staff visit to Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge with Border Patrol.

Chris

Christine R. Tincher  
Congressional Liaison / Public Affairs Specialist  
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service - Southwest Region  
New Mexico \* Arizona \* Texas \* Oklahoma

Office: (602) 889-5954  
Mobile: (505) 449-8776  
Email: [chris\\_tincher@fws.gov](mailto:chris_tincher@fws.gov)

\*\*\*\*\*

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

**From:** **Jess, Robert** <[robert\\_jess@fws.gov](mailto:robert_jess@fws.gov)>  
**Date:** Thu, Oct 19, 2017 at 8:10 AM  
**Subject:** Update on HAC members visit to Santa Ana NWR 10/18/17  
**To:** Aaron Archibeque <[aaron\\_archibeque@fws.gov](mailto:aaron_archibeque@fws.gov)>  
**Cc:** kelly mcdowell <[kelly\\_mcdowell@fws.gov](mailto:kelly_mcdowell@fws.gov)>, Monica Kimbrough <[monica\\_kimbrough@fws.gov](mailto:monica_kimbrough@fws.gov)>, "Tincher, Chris" <[chris\\_tincher@fws.gov](mailto:chris_tincher@fws.gov)>, Sonny Perez <[sonny\\_perez@fws.gov](mailto:sonny_perez@fws.gov)>

*Attendees*

## **BORDER PATROL LRGV SECTOR**

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) - Sector Rep assigned for oversight of new fence construction

(b) (6), (b) (7) Point of Contact (POC) for FWS partner

(8) other agents in tow for security

## **DHS HQ PARTICIPANTS**

- (b) (6), (b) (7), Acting Branch Chief Budget & Appropriations – Office of Congressional Affairs, CBP
- (b) (6), (b) (7) Senior Appropriations Liaison, Office of the Chief Financial Officer, ICE

## **FWS REPS**

Robert Jess, Project Leader, South Texas Refuge Complex

Sonny Perez, Deputy Project Leader, South Texas Refuge Complex

## **CONGRESSIONAL ATTENDEES**

- (b) (6), (b) (7)(C), HAC/HS Majority Clerk
- (b) (6), (b) (7), HAC/HS Minority Staff (CBP Account Holder)

## **Briefing and Topics Addressed**

- STRC orientation (Jess) - over view of Complex and associated challenges in Valley
- BP/STRC (Jess) partnership and successes such as El Morrillo Banco Horse Stables, Bike Patrol at SANWR, BP sub stations at Maranoff tract and SANWR Storefront
- BP (b) (6), (b) (7) & STRC (Jess) Border challenges- discussed how we collaborate and divide to address multitude of issues associated with border

When prompted, BP (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) & STRC (Jess) discussed a prior unified proposal that addressed UDA and drug activity- a west to east strategy based on level of activities occurring in towns and refuge tracts- questions were asked how on how it changed to SANWR- BP responded. Further discussion on how much activity was occurring at SANWR- Jess responded that shifts occur throughout Sector and most areas along line can be considered high, medium or low.

- When asked of opinion of issue, (Jess) stated “we hold no opinion and support the Administration’s proposal.”
- Questions on relationship and communication between BP and STRC were addressed- stated comms both up and down the chain of command were great
- Questions on thoughts of use of technology on refuge tracts- STRC (Jess) stated that STRC very supportive and currently multiple operations ongoing with RVSS cameras, Aero Stats, and ground surveillance
- Questions came up with specifics of proposal at SANWR and possible impacts to refuge resources. Possible outcomes discussed were based on socio economic and biological (eco-tourism and importance of SANWR to birding communities), and inability of animals to traverse north of fence during flood events.

· Question on compromises made by BP Chief at SANWR regarding enforcement zones- BP Agent (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) addressed.

A tour of the levee and proposed area of impact for fence location was given.

Meeting lasted 1.15 hours.

Please see attached for staffer agenda and background of attendees.

end of report

--

robert jess

project leader

south texas refuge complex

alamo, texas

# **Label: "Border Fence"**

**Created by:robert\_jess@fws.gov**

Total Messages in label:672 (227 conversations)

Created: 09-29-2017 at 11:47 AM

# Conversation Contents

## C2 Visit to the Santa Ana Refuge - Who is attending?

**"Tincher, Chris" <chris\_tincher@fws.gov>**

---

**From:** "Tincher, Chris" <chris\_tincher@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri Sep 08 2017 10:59:12 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Jess, Robert" <robert\_jess@fws.gov>  
"Harvey, Thomas" <thomas\_harvey@fws.gov>, kelly mcdowell <kelly\_mcdowell@fws.gov>, Monica Kimbrough <monica\_kimbrough@fws.gov>, Sonny Perez <sonny\_perez@fws.gov>, Bryan Winton <bryan\_winton@fws.gov>, Aislinn Maestas <aislinn\_maestas@fws.gov>, Keenan Adams <keenan\_adams@fws.gov>, Beth Ullenberg <beth\_ullenberg@fws.gov>  
**CC:**  
**Subject:** C2 Visit to the Santa Ana Refuge - Who is attending?

Hi,  
Is this meeting still proposed to take place? If so, who will be participating from our agency? HQ is asking for the final Weekly report.  
Thank you,  
Chris

Christine R. Tincher  
Congressional Liaison / Public Affairs Specialist  
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service - Southwest Region  
New Mexico \* Arizona \* Texas \* Oklahoma

Office: (602) 889-5954  
Mobile: (505) 449-8776  
Email: [chris\\_tincher@fws.gov](mailto:chris_tincher@fws.gov)

\*\*\*\*\*

On Tue, Sep 5, 2017 at 11:03 AM, Jess, Robert <[robert\\_jess@fws.gov](mailto:robert_jess@fws.gov)> wrote:

I received from Border Patrol this morning via phone call...

"Good morning Mr. Jess,

As previously discussed, we were wondering if you are available on the afternoon of September 22, 2017 to meet with Deputy Commissioner (b) at the Santa Ana Wildlife Refuge? As we receive more details, I will provide you with more information and a (b) precise time."

Discussion will focus on success stories of BP/FWS partnership at STRC and a visual of proposed border wall location for DC (b) (6),  
(b) (7)

--

robert jess  
project leader  
south texas refuge complex  
alamo, texas

## **Kelly McDowell <kelly\_mcdowell@fws.gov>**

---

**From:** Kelly McDowell <kelly\_mcdowell@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri Sep 08 2017 11:21:34 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Tincher, Chris" <chris\_tincher@fws.gov>  
"Jess, Robert" <robert\_jess@fws.gov>, "Harvey, Thomas" <thomas\_harvey@fws.gov>, Monica Kimbrough <monica\_kimbrough@fws.gov>, Sonny Perez <sonny\_perez@fws.gov>, Bryan Winton <bryan\_winton@fws.gov>, Aislinn Maestas <aislinn\_maestas@fws.gov>, Keenan Adams <keenan\_adams@fws.gov>, Beth Ullenberg <beth\_ullenberg@fws.gov>  
**CC:**  
**Subject:** Re: C2 Visit to the Santa Ana Refuge - Who is attending?

Chris,

Keenan and I have been playing phone tag. Aaron told me yesterday that Joy and possibly our new RD is attending.

Talk with Keenan!

Kelly

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 8, 2017, at 11:59 AM, Tincher, Chris <[chris\\_tincher@fws.gov](mailto:chris_tincher@fws.gov)> wrote:

Hi,  
Is this meeting still proposed to take place? If so, who will be participating from our agency? HQ is asking for the final Weekly report.  
Thank you,  
Chris

Christine R. Tincher  
Congressional Liaison / Public Affairs Specialist  
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service - Southwest Region  
New Mexico \* Arizona \* Texas \* Oklahoma

Office: (602) 889-5954  
Mobile: (505) 449-8776

Email: [chris\\_tincher@fws.gov](mailto:chris_tincher@fws.gov)

\*\*\*\*\*

On Tue, Sep 5, 2017 at 11:03 AM, Jess, Robert <[robert\\_jess@fws.gov](mailto:robert_jess@fws.gov)> wrote:

I received from Border Patrol this morning via phone call...

"Good morning Mr. Jess,

As previously discussed, we were wondering if you are available on the afternoon of September 22, 2017 to meet with Deputy Commissioner (b) at the Santa Ana Wildlife Refuge? As we receive more details, I will provide you with more information (b) and a precise time."

Discussion will focus on success stories of BP/FWS partnership at STRC and a visual of proposed border wall location for DC (b) (6), (b) (7)

--

robert jess  
project leader  
south texas refuge complex  
alamo, texas

## "Adams, Keenan" <[keenan\\_adams@fws.gov](mailto:keenan_adams@fws.gov)>

---

**From:** "Adams, Keenan" <[keenan\\_adams@fws.gov](mailto:keenan_adams@fws.gov)>  
**Sent:** Fri Sep 08 2017 11:47:13 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Tincher, Chris" <[chris\\_tincher@fws.gov](mailto:chris_tincher@fws.gov)>  
Kelly McDowell <[kelly\\_mcdowell@fws.gov](mailto:kelly_mcdowell@fws.gov)>, "Jess, Robert" <[robert\\_jess@fws.gov](mailto:robert_jess@fws.gov)>, "Harvey, Thomas" <[thomas\\_harvey@fws.gov](mailto:thomas_harvey@fws.gov)>, Monica Kimbrough <[monica\\_kimbrough@fws.gov](mailto:monica_kimbrough@fws.gov)>, Sonny Perez <[sonny\\_perez@fws.gov](mailto:sonny_perez@fws.gov)>, Bryan Winton <[bryan\\_winton@fws.gov](mailto:bryan_winton@fws.gov)>, Aislinn Maestas <[aislinn\\_maestas@fws.gov](mailto:aislinn_maestas@fws.gov)>, Beth Ullenberg <[beth\\_ullenberg@fws.gov](mailto:beth_ullenberg@fws.gov)>  
**CC:**  
**Subject:** Re: C2 Visit to the Santa Ana Refuge - Who is attending?

As of now Amy will be attending and I'm assuming Archibeque as well. Greg Sheehan may be attending as well, I'm waiting on a response from HQ.

Kelly and I will work on an agenda for the previous days. Amy would like to visit other areas before the Friday meeting.

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Talk with Keenan!

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Sent from my iPhone

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Email: [chris\\_tincher@fws.gov](mailto:chris_tincher@fws.gov)

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(b) (7)

--  
robert jess  
project leader  
south texas refuge complex  
alamo, texas

--  
Keenan Adams

**Acting** Assistant Regional Director - External Affairs  
August & September 2017  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service - Southwest Region  
Office: 505-248-6285

*Make everything as simple as possible, but not simpler. ~Albert Einstein*

## **Robert Jess <robert\_jess@fws.gov>**

---

**From:** Robert Jess <robert\_jess@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri Sep 08 2017 16:03:48 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Adams, Keenan" <keenan\_adams@fws.gov>  
"Tincher, Chris" <chris\_tincher@fws.gov>, Kelly McDowell  
<kelly\_mcdowell@fws.gov>, "Harvey, Thomas"  
<thomas\_harvey@fws.gov>, Monica Kimbrough  
<monica\_kimbrough@fws.gov>, Sonny Perez  
**CC:** <sonny\_perez@fws.gov>, Bryan Winton  
<bryan\_winton@fws.gov>, Aislinn Maestas  
<aislinn\_maestas@fws.gov>, Beth Ullenberg  
<beth\_ullenberg@fws.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: C2 Visit to the Santa Ana Refuge - Who is attending?

Just got off the phone with kelly so my apologies for not seeing the email sooner (scheduled day off). The answer is yes, the meeting is still scheduled but has been moved to Saturday, September 23, 2017 due to the DC2's schedule. I'll forward an email from his schedulers so that Keenan can continue to coordinate. I'd just ask that I be CC:ed as there's communication also going on behind the scenes with local BP.  
Thanks, rob

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 8, 2017, at 12:47 PM, Adams, Keenan <[keenan\\_adams@fws.gov](mailto:keenan_adams@fws.gov)> wrote:

As of now Amy will be attending and I'm assuming Archibeque as well. Greg Sheehan may be attending as well, I'm waiting on a response from HQ.

Kelly and I will work on an agenda for the previous days. Amy would like to visit other areas before the Friday meeting.

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Christine R. Tincher  
Congressional Liaison / Public Affairs Specialist  
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Office: (602) 889-5954  
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--

robert jess  
project leader  
south texas refuge complex  
alamo, texas

--

Keenan Adams

**Acting** Assistant Regional Director - External Affairs  
August & September 2017  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service - Southwest Region  
Office: 505-248-6285

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**"Adams, Keenan" <keenan\_adams@fws.gov>**

---

**From:** "Adams, Keenan" <keenan\_adams@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue Sep 12 2017 13:24:23 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Jess, Robert" <robert\_jess@fws.gov>  
Kelly McDowell <kelly\_mcdowell@fws.gov>, "Tincher, Chris" <chris\_tincher@fws.gov>, "Harvey, Thomas" <thomas\_harvey@fws.gov>, Monica Kimbrough <monica\_kimbrough@fws.gov>, Sonny Perez <sonny\_perez@fws.gov>, Bryan Winton <bryan\_winton@fws.gov>, Aislinn Maestas <aislinn\_maestas@fws.gov>, Beth Ullenberg <beth\_ullenberg@fws.gov>  
**CC:**  
**Subject:** Re: C2 Visit to the Santa Ana Refuge - Who is attending?

Got confirmation that Sheehan will **not** be visiting.

On Fri, Sep 8, 2017 at 11:47 AM, Adams, Keenan <[keenan\\_adams@fws.gov](mailto:keenan_adams@fws.gov)> wrote:  
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--  
robert jess  
project leader  
south texas refuge complex  
alamo, texas

--  
Keenan Adams

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Keenan Adams

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*Make everything as simple as possible, but not simpler. ~Albert Einstein*

# **Label: "Border Wall"**

**Created by: [aislinn\\_maestas@fws.gov](mailto:aislinn_maestas@fws.gov)**

Total Messages in label: 361 (98 conversations)

Created: 04-12-2018 at 12:46 PM

# Conversation Contents

Oct 21 event canceled : SANWR- Mayor Press Release Update

**"Tincher, Chris" <chris\_tincher@fws.gov>**

---

**From:** "Tincher, Chris" <chris\_tincher@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue Oct 17 2017 15:04:10 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** Matthew Trott <matthew\_trott@fws.gov>, Gavin Shire <gavin\_shire@fws.gov>, Laury Parramore <laury\_parramore@fws.gov>  
**CC:** John Bradley <john\_bradley@fws.gov>, Aislinn Maestas <aislinn\_maestas@fws.gov>, Beth Ullenberg <beth\_ullenberg@fws.gov>  
**Subject:** Oct 21 event canceled : SANWR- Mayor Press Release Update

Hi Matt,

We just received word that the media event planned to take place near the border has been canceled.

Chris

## Hot Topics - Week Ahead Announcements and Actions

**Canceled:** October 21 – A media conference regarding the proposed border wall is tentatively being planned by the local community at or near FWS Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge. See Border-related Activities for details. (R2 – Southwest Region)

Details: A media conference regarding the proposed border wall is tentatively being planned by the local community on Saturday, October 21, 2017. The event is proposed to occur at or near the FWS Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge (FWS is not a participant). If the event takes place, it is estimated that 50 to 65 individuals could be in attendance, including 18 Mayors from local towns of the Rio Grande Valley (the nearest City to the Refuge is Alamo, Texas). It is anticipated the local community will have signed resolutions against the proposed project. (R2 – Southwest Region)

-----  
Currently there are no plans to reschedule this event. If we hear of any changes, we will let everyone know.

Chris

Christine R. Tincher  
Congressional Liaison / Public Affairs Specialist  
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service - Southwest Region  
New Mexico \* Arizona \* Texas \* Oklahoma

Office: (602) 889-5954

Mobile: (505) 449-8776

Email: [chris\\_tincher@fws.gov](mailto:chris_tincher@fws.gov)

\*\*\*\*\*

# **Label: "Border Wall"**

**Created by:aislinn\_maestas@fws.gov**

Total Messages in label:361 (98 conversations)

Created: 04-12-2018 at 12:46 PM

# Conversation Contents

Fwd: Mayors of border cities event Sept 30 - Santa Ana

"Jess, Robert" <[robert\\_jess@fws.gov](mailto:robert_jess@fws.gov)>

---

**From:** "Jess, Robert" <[robert\\_jess@fws.gov](mailto:robert_jess@fws.gov)>  
**Sent:** Tue Sep 26 2017 13:11:26 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** Monica Kimbrough <[monica\\_kimbrough@fws.gov](mailto:monica_kimbrough@fws.gov)>, Aislinn Maestas <[aislinn\\_maestas@fws.gov](mailto:aislinn_maestas@fws.gov)>, Beth Ullenberg <[beth\\_ullenberg@fws.gov](mailto:beth_ullenberg@fws.gov)>, "Tincher, Chris" <[chris\\_tincher@fws.gov](mailto:chris_tincher@fws.gov)>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Mayors of border cities event Sept 30 - Santa Ana

My apologies- I pushed "send" before looking to see that the most important people weren't on the list...  
rob

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

From: **Jess, Robert** <[robert\\_jess@fws.gov](mailto:robert_jess@fws.gov)>  
Date: Tue, Sep 26, 2017 at 2:09 PM  
Subject: Re: Mayors of border cities event Sept 30 - Santa Ana  
To: "(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)" <[\[REDACTED\]@fws.gov](mailto:[REDACTED]@fws.gov)>  
Cc: Kelly McDowell <[kelly\\_mcdowell@fws.gov](mailto:kelly_mcdowell@fws.gov)>, Thomas Harvey <[Thomas\\_Harvey@fws.gov](mailto:Thomas_Harvey@fws.gov)>, Aaron Archibeque <[Aaron\\_Archibeque@fws.gov](mailto:Aaron_Archibeque@fws.gov)>, Sonny Perez <[sonny\\_perez@fws.gov](mailto:sonny_perez@fws.gov)>, Bryan Winton <[bryan\\_winton@fws.gov](mailto:bryan_winton@fws.gov)>, "(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)" <[\[REDACTED\]@fws.gov](mailto:[REDACTED]@fws.gov)>, "(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)" <[\[REDACTED\]@fws.gov](mailto:[REDACTED]@fws.gov)>

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

I received another update this morning on the "Border Fence Community Press & Media Conference"- it has been moved to Saturday, October 21, 2017 as the group realized that other communities are also wanting to pass resolutions against the proposed border wall location at Santa Ana Refuge prior to a media release. At the moment, 18 Mayors from local towns of the Valley are planning to attend with that number likely to rise to 20-30 plus their Counsels. It is also possible that County Commissioners will attend as Counties develop resolutions against the fence proposal. We estimate the group size (for the moment) will be approx 50-65 people at the refuge and on the levee. I do want to wait until we get somewhat closer to the date and time before we make a call for any resources. I will continue to update as we find more out but at this time, we are not in need of anything.  
Rob

On Mon, Sep 25, 2017 at 4:21 PM, "(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)" <[\[REDACTED\]@fws.gov](mailto:[REDACTED]@fws.gov)> wrote:  
Rob - Thanks for the phone call and notification on this. I just notified the DRD and we need to brief up. Would please send a note up with the information you have now and additional ones as you gather more info.

Thanks.







# **Label: "Border Patrol/Border Patrol FOIA 2017 (2)"**

**Created by:bryan\_winton@fws.gov**

Total Messages in label:233 (49 conversations)

Created: 09-25-2017 at 06:35 AM

# Conversation Contents

Update

**"Jess, Robert" <robert\_jess@fws.gov>**

---

**From:** "Jess, Robert" <robert\_jess@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon Aug 21 2017 07:49:21 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
kelly mcdowell <kelly\_mcdowell@fws.gov>, Monica Kimbrough <monica\_kimbrough@fws.gov>, Aislinn Maestas <aislinn\_maestas@fws.gov>, Keenan Adams <keenan\_adams@fws.gov>, Sonny Perez <sonny\_perez@fws.gov>, Bryan Winton <bryan\_winton@fws.gov>  
**To:**  
**Subject:** Update

As a reminder, Bryan Sonny and I will be at a 65% design meeting with CBP, BP and their design team today as a more detailed layout is unveiled. We have several design alterations that will be requested. One example is that we have determined that the tram will not be able to enter/ exit the proposed gates as currently designed so we have spoken to BP to request a modification to allow adequate ingress and egress for large scale vehicles including the trams, heavy equipment and farm implements. We will continue to work with them to reduce impacts at the site.

Also, local Sierra Club and Audubon Society are holding a meeting tonight with what was expected to be only a few people to attend. I was invited and planned to go but was uninvited over the weekend as the number of planned participants has grown to 40+. Hopefully, some of our "friends" in these groups will help us better understand what course of action may be planned i.e. any future protests that may occur on STRC lands including the proposed protest to occur at LANWR.

rob

--

robert jess  
project leader  
south texas refuge complex  
alamo, texas

# **Label: "Border Fence"**

**Created by:robert\_jess@fws.gov**

Total Messages in label:672 (227 conversations)

Created: 09-29-2017 at 11:47 AM

# Conversation Contents

HOT\*\*\*Visit\*\*\*C2 Visit to the Santa Ana Refuge

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue Sep 05 2017 16:26:26 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Jess, Robert" <robert\_jess@fws.gov>  
**CC:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>  
**Subject:** HOT\*\*\*Visit\*\*\*C2 Visit to the Santa Ana Refuge

10-4 Sir.

Copying MSS (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) and (A)SBPA (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) for awareness. She is our protocol officer and (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) is overseeing tours and visits.

Respectfully,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Special Operations Supervisor  
Communications Branch  
RGV Sector HQ  
O: (b) (6), (b) (7)  
C: (b) (6), (b) (7)  
(b) (6), (b) (7) @cbp.dhs.gov

**From:** Jess, Robert [mailto:robert\_jess@fws.gov]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 05, 2017 12:52 PM  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @CBP.DHS.GOV>  
**Subject:** Re: C2 Visit to the Santa Ana Refuge

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

Thanks for the heads up and yes, when you get more information as to time and what he would like to see- I would appreciate it. If this is only proposed fence base then I understand but I'd hope we could take the time to show the partnership here on the ground, especially the horse stables, the storefront, bike patrol and Maranoff Tract.  
robert

On Tue, Sep 5, 2017 at 12:27 PM, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov> wrote:

Good morning Mr. Jess,

As previously discussed, we were wondering if you are available on the afternoon of September 22, 2017 to meet with Deputy Commissioner (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) at the Santa Ana Wildlife Refuge? As we receive more details, I will provide you with more information and a precise time.

Respectfully,

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

Special Operations Supervisor  
Communications Branch  
RGV Sector HQ

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

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

(b) (6), (b) (7) @cbp.dhs.gov

---

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Sent:** Tuesday, August 29, 2017 3:10 PM

**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>

**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>; (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>; (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @CBP.DHS.GOV>

**Subject:** C2 Trip to McAllen

Good afternoon (b) (6)

Chief (b) (6), is requesting that Deputy Commissioner (b) (6), accompany Division Chiefs (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) and (b) (7)(C) to attend the Spousal Academy Graduation on Thursday evening, (b) (7)(C)

On Friday, after the promotion ceremony, Chief (b) (6), would like that Deputy Commissioner (b) (6), receive an intel brief and then visit the Alpha 2 Aerostat Site in Penitas, Texas. (b) (7)

Please advise of any other requests or suggestions.

#### Harlingen Station Spousal Academy Graduation

- **Date:** 09/21/2017
- **Time:** 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM
- **Location:** Harlingen Station at (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
- **POC:** Border Patrol Agent (BPA) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
- **Note:** This will be a graduation for Border Patrol Agent spouses.

#### Promotion Ceremony/Presentation of the Badge of Bravery

- **Date:** 09/22/2017
- **Time:** 9:00 AM – 10:30 AM
- **Location:** Weslaco Station (WSL) at (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
- **POC:** Supervisory Mission Support Specialist (b) (6), (b) (7)
- **Note:** AC (b) (6), will be keynote speaker; Senator John Cornyn's office will also be presenting the Congressional Badge of Bravery to Agents (b) (6), (b) (7) and (b) (6), (b) (7)(C). The presentation will take place in conjunction with the promotion ceremony.

#### CBP Family Outreach Event

- **Date:** 09/23/2017
- **Time:** 1:00 PM – 6:00 PM
- **Location:** State Farm Arena
- **POC:** MSS (b) (6), & CBP HQ
- **Note:** AC (b) (6), and DAC (b) (6), will be heading event. (b) (7)

Respectfully,

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

Special Operations Supervisor  
Communications Branch

RGV Sector HQ

O: (b) (6), (b) (7)

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

(b) (6), (b) (7) @cbp.dhs.gov

---

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Sent:** Tuesday, August 29, 2017 8:41 AM

**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @CBP.DHS.GOV>

**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>

**Subject:** C2 Trip to McAllen

Good Morning sir,

Deputy Commissioner (b) (6), (b) (7) will be traveling to McAllen the evening of September 21st-23rd. Do you have any suggestions for possible BP engagements while C2 is in the area?

Regards,

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

U.S Customs and Border Protection

Office of the Commissioner

Cell: (b) (6), (b) (7)

--

robert jess  
project leader  
south texas refuge complex  
alamo, texas

# **Label: "Border Fence"**

**Created by:robert\_jess@fws.gov**

Total Messages in label:672 (227 conversations)

Created: 09-29-2017 at 11:47 AM

# Conversation Contents

## Media Inquiry regarding Border Fence and visitation

**"Chapa, Gisela" <gisela\_chapa@fws.gov>**

---

**From:** "Chapa, Gisela" <gisela\_chapa@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Sat Sep 02 2017 16:25:21 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** Robert Jess <robert\_jess@fws.gov>  
Beth Ullenberg <beth\_ullenberg@fws.gov>, Aislinn Maestas  
**CC:** <aislinn\_maestas@fws.gov>, Keenan Adams  
<keenan\_adams@fws.gov>  
**Subject:** Media Inquiry regarding Border Fence and visitation

Howdy Rob,

On Friday afternoon I got a call from a reporter stating that he was doing a story on border fence and wanted to know information about visitation. I tried calling Beth but she was not available. I was able to get in touch with Keenan and he mentioned I could address regular questions that any normal visitor would ask but to refer him to Aislinn with more detailed questions.

Since I was in a rush to get to my conf. call I did not get the reporter's affiliation or email, only his number and name. I will follow up with him shortly as soon as I can verify RAPP visitation numbers that were reported this year.

Thanks,

Gisela Chapa  
Urban Wildlife Refuge Coordinator  
South Texas National Wildlife Refuge Complex  
3325 Green Jay Road  
Alamo, Texas 78516

-----  
956-784-7541  
956-357-1222 (C)  
956-787-8338 (F)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6eTg6FQT5hM>  
[http://www.fws.gov/refuge/santa\\_ana/](http://www.fws.gov/refuge/santa_ana/)

**"One generation plants a tree...the next enjoys the shade."  
-Anonymous**

**"Maestas, Aislinn" <aislinn\_maestas@fws.gov>**

---

**From:** "Maestas, Aislinn" <aislinn\_maestas@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue Sep 05 2017 08:28:23 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Chapa, Gisela" <gisela\_chapa@fws.gov>

**CC:** Robert Jess <robert\_jess@fws.gov>, Beth Ullenberg <beth\_ullenberg@fws.gov>, Keenan Adams <keenan\_adams@fws.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Media Inquiry regarding Border Fence and visitation

Thank you Gisela. Appreciate the help and for checking in with EA on proper response. Please let me know if I can help in any way.

- Aislinn

On Sat, Sep 2, 2017 at 4:25 PM, Chapa, Gisela <[gisela\\_chapa@fws.gov](mailto:gisela_chapa@fws.gov)> wrote:  
Howdy Rob,

On Friday afternoon I got a call from a reporter stating that he was doing a story on border fence and wanted to know information about visitation. I tried calling Beth but she was not available. I was able to get in touch with Keenan and he mentioned I could address regular questions that any normal visitor would ask but to refer him to Aislinn with more detailed questions.

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Urban Wildlife Refuge Coordinator  
South Texas National Wildlife Refuge Complex  
3325 Green Jay Road  
Alamo, Texas 78516

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956-784-7541  
956-357-1222 (C)  
956-787-8338 (F)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6eTg6FQT5hM>  
[http://www.fws.gov/refuge/santa\\_ana/](http://www.fws.gov/refuge/santa_ana/)

**"One generation plants a tree...the next enjoys the shade."**  
**-Anonymous**

--  
**Aislinn Maestas**  
Public Affairs Specialist  
External Affairs  
Southwest Region, US Fish and Wildlife Service  
Phone: 505-248-6599  
[aislinn\\_maestas@fws.gov](mailto:aislinn_maestas@fws.gov)

**"Jess, Robert" <robert\_jess@fws.gov>**

---

**From:** "Jess, Robert" <robert\_jess@fws.gov>

**Sent:** Tue Sep 05 2017 08:43:09 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** kelly mcdowell <kelly\_mcdowell@fws.gov>, Monica Kimbrough <monica\_kimbrough@fws.gov>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Media Inquiry regarding Border Fence and visitation

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

From: **Maestas, Aislinn** <[aislinn\\_maestas@fws.gov](mailto:aislinn_maestas@fws.gov)>  
Date: Tue, Sep 5, 2017 at 9:28 AM  
Subject: Re: Media Inquiry regarding Border Fence and visitation  
To: "Chapa, Gisela" <[gisela\\_chapa@fws.gov](mailto:gisela_chapa@fws.gov)>  
Cc: Robert Jess <[robert\\_jess@fws.gov](mailto:robert_jess@fws.gov)>, Beth Ullenberg <[beth\\_ullenberg@fws.gov](mailto:beth_ullenberg@fws.gov)>, Keenan Adams <[keenan\\_adams@fws.gov](mailto:keenan_adams@fws.gov)>

Thank you Gisela. Appreciate the help and for checking in with EA on proper response. Please let me know if I can help in any way.

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Gisela Chapa  
Urban Wildlife Refuge Coordinator  
South Texas National Wildlife Refuge Complex  
3325 Green Jay Road  
Alamo, Texas 78516

-----  
956-784-7541  
956-357-1222 (C)  
956-787-8338 (F)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6eTg6FQT5hM>  
[http://www.fws.gov/refuge/santa\\_ana/](http://www.fws.gov/refuge/santa_ana/)

**"One generation plants a tree...the next enjoys the shade."**  
**-Anonymous**

--  
**Aislinn Maestas**  
Public Affairs Specialist  
External Affairs

Southwest Region, US Fish and Wildlife Service  
Phone: 505-248-6599  
[aislinn\\_maestas@fws.gov](mailto:aislinn_maestas@fws.gov)

--  
robert jess  
project leader  
south texas refuge complex  
alamo, texas

# **Label: "Border Fence"**

**Created by:robert\_jess@fws.gov**

Total Messages in label:672 (227 conversations)

Created: 09-29-2017 at 11:48 AM

# Conversation Contents

Fwd: news article on borde wall contracts

**"Reyes, Ernesto" <ernesto\_reyes@fws.gov>**

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**From:** "Reyes, Ernesto" <ernesto\_reyes@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue Sep 05 2017 06:31:28 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
Robert Jess <robert\_jess@fws.gov>, Sonny Perez <sonny\_perez@fws.gov>, Bryan Winton <bryan\_winton@fws.gov>, Mitch Sternberg <mitch\_sternberg@fws.gov>, Chris Perez <chris\_perez@fws.gov>, Imer DeLaGarza <imer\_delagarza@fws.gov>, Laura delaGarza <laura\_delagarza@fws.gov>, Christine Donald <christine\_donald@fws.gov>, raul\_garza <raul\_garza@fws.gov>, Gisela Chapa <gisela\_chapa@fws.gov>, Scot Edler <scot\_edler@fws.gov>, Chris Hathcock <chris\_hathcock@fws.gov>, Romeo Garcia <romeo\_garcia@fws.gov>, Alejandro Rodriguez <alejandro\_rodriguez@fws.gov>, Boyd Blihovde <boyd\_blihovde@fws.gov>, Katrina Marklevits <katrina\_marklevits@fws.gov>, Mark Spier <mark\_spier@nps.gov>, Rolando Garza <rolando\_garza@nps.gov>, Willy Cupit <Willy.Cupit@tpwd.texas.gov>, Liana Lerma <Liana.Lerma@tpwd.texas.gov>, Russell Hooten <Russell.hooten@tpwd.texas.gov>, Jackie Robinson <Jackie.robinson@tpwd.texas.gov>, Kendal Keyes <Kendal.Keyes@tpwd.texas.gov>, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @ios.doi.gov, Janice Engle <janice\_engle@fws.gov>, "Singleton, Melissa" <melissa\_singleton@fws.gov>, Aimee Roberson <aroberson@abcbirds.org>, "Jesús Franco" <jfranco@abcbirds.org>  
**To:**  
**Subject:** Fwd: news article on borde wall contracts

Border Wall Contracts

<https://www.fedsmith.com/2017/09/01/cbp-announces-contract-awards-concrete-border-wall-prototypes/>

## "Jess, Robert" <robert\_jess@fws.gov>

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**From:** "Jess, Robert" <robert\_jess@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue Sep 05 2017 08:44:50 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
kelly mcdowell <kelly\_mcdowell@fws.gov>, Monica Kimbrough  
<monica\_kimbrough@fws.gov>, Aislinn Maestas  
**To:** <aislinn\_maestas@fws.gov>, Keenan Adams  
<keenan\_adams@fws.gov>  
**Subject:** Fwd: news article on borde wall contracts

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

From: **Reyes, Ernesto** <[ernesto\\_reyes@fws.gov](mailto:ernesto_reyes@fws.gov)>  
Date: Tue, Sep 5, 2017 at 7:31 AM  
Subject: Fwd: news article on borde wall contracts  
To: Robert Jess <[robert\\_jess@fws.gov](mailto:robert_jess@fws.gov)>, Sonny Perez <[sonny\\_perez@fws.gov](mailto:sonny_perez@fws.gov)>, Bryan Winton <[bryan\\_winton@fws.gov](mailto:bryan_winton@fws.gov)>, Mitch Sternberg <[mitch\\_sternberg@fws.gov](mailto:mitch_sternberg@fws.gov)>, Chris Perez <[chris\\_perez@fws.gov](mailto:chris_perez@fws.gov)>, Imer DeLaGarza <[imer\\_delagarza@fws.gov](mailto:imer_delagarza@fws.gov)>, Laura delaGarza <[laura\\_delagarza@fws.gov](mailto:laura_delagarza@fws.gov)>, Christine Donald <[christine\\_donald@fws.gov](mailto:christine_donald@fws.gov)>, raul\_garza <[raul\\_garza@fws.gov](mailto:raul_garza@fws.gov)>, Gisela Chapa <[gisela\\_chapa@fws.gov](mailto:gisela_chapa@fws.gov)>, Scot Edler <[scot\\_edler@fws.gov](mailto:scot_edler@fws.gov)>, Chris Hathcock <[chris\\_hathcock@fws.gov](mailto:chris_hathcock@fws.gov)>, Romeo Garcia <[romeo\\_garcia@fws.gov](mailto:romeo_garcia@fws.gov)>, Alejandro Rodriguez <[alejandro\\_rodriguez@fws.gov](mailto:alejandro_rodriguez@fws.gov)>, Boyd Blihovde <[boyd\\_blihovde@fws.gov](mailto:boyd_blihovde@fws.gov)>, Katrina Marklevits <[katrina\\_marklevits@fws.gov](mailto:katrina_marklevits@fws.gov)>, Mark Spier <[mark\\_spier@nps.gov](mailto:mark_spier@nps.gov)>, Rolando Garza <[rolando\\_garza@nps.gov](mailto:rolando_garza@nps.gov)>, Willy Cupit <[Willy.Cupit@tpwd.texas.gov](mailto:Willy.Cupit@tpwd.texas.gov)>, Liana Lerma <[Liana.Lerma@tpwd.texas.gov](mailto:Liana.Lerma@tpwd.texas.gov)>, Russell Hooten <[Russell.hooten@tpwd.texas.gov](mailto:Russell.hooten@tpwd.texas.gov)>, Jackie Robinson <[Jackie.robinson@tpwd.texas.gov](mailto:Jackie.robinson@tpwd.texas.gov)>, Kendal Keyes <[Kendal.Keyes@tpwd.texas.gov](mailto:Kendal.Keyes@tpwd.texas.gov)>, "(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)" <[ios.doi.gov](mailto:ios.doi.gov)>, Janice Engle <[janice\\_engle@fws.gov](mailto:janice_engle@fws.gov)>, "Singleton, Melissa" <[melissa\\_singleton@fws.gov](mailto:melissa_singleton@fws.gov)>, Aimee Roberson <[aroberson@abcbirds.org](mailto:aroberson@abcbirds.org)>, Jesús Franco <[jfranco@abcbirds.org](mailto:jfranco@abcbirds.org)>

Border Wall Contracts

<https://www.fedsmith.com/2017/09/01/cbp-announces-contract-awards-concrete-border-wall-prototypes/>

--

robert jess  
project leader  
south texas refuge complex  
alamo, texas

# **Label: "Border Patrol/Border Patrol FOIA 2017 (2)"**

**Created by:bryan\_winton@fws.gov**

Total Messages in label:233 (49 conversations)

Created: 09-25-2017 at 06:37 AM

# Conversation Contents

## Cable Fence Design

**"Winton, Bryan" <bryan\_winton@fws.gov>**

---

**From:** "Winton, Bryan" <bryan\_winton@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu Jul 27 2017 08:30:22 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>  
**CC:** Rob Jess <robert\_jess@fws.gov>, Ernesto Reyes <ernesto\_reyes@fws.gov>  
**Subject:** Cable Fence Design

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

You asked for information about a cable fence (design/details) based on the request by Project Leader Robert Jess to install this at the southern edge of the Enforcement Zone--so that there will not be dragging occurring or vehicle traffic beyond the edge of this zone.

I have been working with Ft. Brown Station CBP, Port of Brownsville, Space-X, and Texas Parks & Wildlife Department on a cable fence for the greater Boca Chica area (east of Brownsville).

We have illegal traffic and trespass throughout this important ecological (conservation) area, and it impacts nesting birds annually, and degrades the environment in general. All parties have tentatively agreed to a cable fence design specific to this area. I think what Rob has requested could be satisfied with a similiar design.

The fence is comprised of 7" round by 6' long posts, spaced at 20' apart. Post are rounded-top and have a hole in them about 6-8" from the top, where a cable is threaded through. This type fence is easily walked over but prevents motorized vehicles from driving over it, or in this case, any dragging occurring beyond it.

I computed a materials and cost list for a 16.75 mile segment of cable fence at Boca Chica. The total cost of this project for that length was ~\$210K, which is about \$13,200 per mile. I think this would be appropriate for what Rob Jess requested.

If you want more details about the cable fence please contact me.

Thank you.

--

Bryan R. Winton, Wildlife Refuge Manager  
Lower Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuge  
Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge  
3325 Green Jay Road, Alamo, Texas 78516  
(956) 784-7521 office; (956) 874-4304 cell  
[bryan\\_winton@fws.gov](mailto:bryan_winton@fws.gov)

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

@cbp.dhs.gov>

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri Jul 28 2017 04:16:50 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Winton, Bryan" <bryan\_winton@fws.gov>  
**CC:** Rob Jess <robert\_jess@fws.gov>, Ernesto Reyes <ernesto\_reyes@fws.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Cable Fence Design

Thanks Brian-this should suffice.

Best,

(b)  
(6)

**From:** Winton, Bryan [mailto:bryan\_winton@fws.gov]  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 27, 2017 10:30 AM  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>  
**Cc:** Rob Jess <robert\_jess@fws.gov>; Ernesto Reyes <ernesto\_reyes@fws.gov>  
**Subject:** Cable Fence Design

ex 6 &

You asked for information about a cable fence (design/details) based on the request by Project Leader Robert Jess to install this at the southern edge of the Enforcement Zone--so that there will not be dragging occurring or vehicle traffic beyond the edge of this zone.

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Lower Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuge  
Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge  
3325 Green Jay Road, Alamo, Texas 78516  
(956) 784-7521 office; (956) 874-4304 cell  
[bryan\\_winton@fws.gov](mailto:bryan_winton@fws.gov)

# **Label: "Border Wall"**

**Created by:aislinn\_maestas@fws.gov**

Total Messages in label:361 (98 conversations)

Created: 04-12-2018 at 12:52 PM

# Conversation Contents

Pls review draft text on proposed media conference on Border for Weekly report

**"Tincher, Chris" <chris\_tincher@fws.gov>**

---

**From:** "Tincher, Chris" <chris\_tincher@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Wed Sep 27 2017 11:52:18 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** Beth Ullenberg <beth\_ullenberg@fws.gov>, Aislinn Maestas <aislinn\_maestas@fws.gov>  
**Subject:** Pls review draft text on proposed media conference on Border for Weekly report

Hi,  
I know there is a lot of sensitivity on the border information, so I'm seeking your thoughts on how to share information in the Weekly Report. Do the write-ups below work? Please edit as needed.  
Chris

## **Upcoming events**

October 21 – A proposed media conference to protest the proposed border wall is tentatively being planned by the local community at or near FWS Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge. See Border-related Activities for details. (R2 – Southwest Region)

## **Border-Related Activities**

NEW: A proposed media conference to protest the proposed border wall is tentatively being planned by the local community on Saturday, October 21, 2017. The event is proposed to occur at or near the FWS Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge (FWS is not a participant). If the event takes place, it is estimated that 50 to 65 individuals could be in attendance, including 18 Mayors from local towns of the Valley (the nearest City to the Refuge is Alamo, Texas). (R2 – Southwest Region)

Christine R. Tincher  
Congressional Liaison / Public Affairs Specialist  
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service - Southwest Region  
New Mexico \* Arizona \* Texas \* Oklahoma

Office: (602) 889-5954  
Mobile: (505) 449-8776  
Email: [chris\\_tincher@fws.gov](mailto:chris_tincher@fws.gov)

\*\*\*\*\*

**"Ullenberg, Beth" <beth\_ullenberg@fws.gov>**

---

**From:** "Ullenberg, Beth" <beth\_ullenberg@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Wed Sep 27 2017 12:06:52 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Tincher, Chris" <chris\_tincher@fws.gov>  
**CC:** Aislinn Maestas <aislinn\_maestas@fws.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Pls review draft text on proposed media conference on Border for Weekly report

Do we need to clarify "Valley"? ....including 18 Mayors from local towns of the Valley

Is it the Rio Grande Valley??

Beth Ullenberg, External Affairs  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Southwest Region  
P.O. Box 1306  
Dennis Chavez Federal Building  
Albuquerque, NM 87103  
505-248-6638 office  
505-414-3815 mobile

"The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is, working with others, to conserve, protect, and enhance fish, wildlife and plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people"

On Wed, Sep 27, 2017 at 11:52 AM, Tincher, Chris <[chris\\_tincher@fws.gov](mailto:chris_tincher@fws.gov)> wrote:

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Christine R. Tincher  
Congressional Liaison / Public Affairs Specialist  
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service - Southwest Region  
New Mexico \* Arizona \* Texas \* Oklahoma

Office: (602) 889-5954  
Mobile: (505) 449-8776  
Email: [chris\\_tincher@fws.gov](mailto:chris_tincher@fws.gov)

\*\*\*\*\*

**"Tincher, Chris" <chris\_tincher@fws.gov>**

---

**From:** "Tincher, Chris" <chris\_tincher@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Wed Sep 27 2017 12:11:09 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Ullenberg, Beth" <beth\_ullenberg@fws.gov>  
**CC:** Aislinn Maestas <aislinn\_maestas@fws.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Pls review draft text on proposed media conference on Border for Weekly report

Good question. It may be the Lower Rio Grande Valley. I'm going to check on-line.

Christine R. Tincher  
Congressional Liaison / Public Affairs Specialist  
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service - Southwest Region  
New Mexico \* Arizona \* Texas \* Oklahoma

Office: (602) 889-5954  
Mobile: (505) 449-8776  
Email: [chris\\_tincher@fws.gov](mailto:chris_tincher@fws.gov)

\*\*\*\*\*

On Wed, Sep 27, 2017 at 11:06 AM, Ullenberg, Beth <[beth\\_ullenberg@fws.gov](mailto:beth_ullenberg@fws.gov)> wrote:  
Do we need to clarify "Valley"? ....including 18 Mayors from local towns of the Valley

Is it the Rio Grande Valley??

Beth Ullenberg, External Affairs  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Southwest Region  
P.O. Box 1306  
Dennis Chavez Federal Building  
Albuquerque, NM 87103  
505-248-6638 office  
505-414-3815 mobile

"The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is, working with others, to conserve, protect, and enhance fish, wildlife and plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people"

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Christine R. Tincher  
Congressional Liaison / Public Affairs Specialist  
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service - Southwest Region  
New Mexico \* Arizona \* Texas \* Oklahoma

Office: (602) 889-5954  
Mobile: (505) 449-8776  
Email: [chris\\_tincher@fws.gov](mailto:chris_tincher@fws.gov)

\*\*\*\*\*

**"Maestas, Aislinn" <[aislinn\\_maestas@fws.gov](mailto:aislinn_maestas@fws.gov)>**

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**From:** "Maestas, Aislinn" <[aislinn\\_maestas@fws.gov](mailto:aislinn_maestas@fws.gov)>  
**Sent:** Wed Sep 27 2017 13:35:52 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Tincher, Chris" <[chris\\_tincher@fws.gov](mailto:chris_tincher@fws.gov)>  
**CC:** "Ullenberg, Beth" <[beth\\_ullenberg@fws.gov](mailto:beth_ullenberg@fws.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: Pls review draft text on proposed media conference on Border for Weekly report

I wouldn't call it a protest or even say its about protesting. It is my understanding this is a press event, where the mayors will sign/pass resolutions in opposition of the wall. I would avoid using the word protest if possible.

Otherwise, I think it looks good.

Thanks,  
- A

On Wed, Sep 27, 2017 at 12:11 PM, Tincher, Chris <[chris\\_tincher@fws.gov](mailto:chris_tincher@fws.gov)> wrote:  
Good question. It may be the Lower Rio Grande Valley. I'm going to check on-line.

Christine R. Tincher  
Congressional Liaison / Public Affairs Specialist  
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service - Southwest Region  
New Mexico \* Arizona \* Texas \* Oklahoma

Office: (602) 889-5954  
Mobile: (505) 449-8776  
Email: [chris\\_tincher@fws.gov](mailto:chris_tincher@fws.gov)

\*\*\*\*\*

On Wed, Sep 27, 2017 at 11:06 AM, Ullenberg, Beth <[beth\\_ullenberg@fws.gov](mailto:beth_ullenberg@fws.gov)> wrote:  
Do we need to clarify "Valley"? ....including 18 Mayors from local towns of the Valley

Is it the Rio Grande Valley??

Beth Ullenberg, External Affairs  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Southwest Region  
P.O. Box 1306  
Dennis Chavez Federal Building  
Albuquerque, NM 87103  
505-248-6638 office  
505-414-3815 mobile

"The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is, working with others, to conserve, protect, and enhance fish, wildlife and plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people"

On Wed, Sep 27, 2017 at 11:52 AM, Tincher, Chris <[chris\\_tincher@fws.gov](mailto:chris_tincher@fws.gov)> wrote:

Hi,  
I know there is a lot of sensitivity on the border information, so I'm seeking your thoughts on how to share information in the Weekly Report. Do the write-ups below work? Please edit as needed.  
Chris

**Upcoming events**

October 21 – A proposed media conference to protest the proposed border wall is tentatively being planned by the local community at or near FWS Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge. See Border-related Activities for details. (R2 – Southwest Region)

**Border-Related Activities**

NEW: A proposed media conference to protest the proposed border wall is tentatively being planned by the local community on Saturday, October 21, 2017. The event is proposed to occur at or near the FWS Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge (FWS is not a participant). If the event takes place, it is estimated that 50 to 65 individuals could be in attendance, including 18 Mayors from local towns of the Valley (the nearest City to the Refuge is Alamo, Texas). (R2 – Southwest Region)

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\*\*\*\*\*

--  
**Aislinn Maestas**  
Public Affairs Specialist  
External Affairs  
Southwest Region, US Fish and Wildlife Service  
Phone: 505-248-6599  
[aislinn\\_maestas@fws.gov](mailto:aislinn_maestas@fws.gov)

**"Tincher, Chris" <[chris\\_tincher@fws.gov](mailto:chris_tincher@fws.gov)>**

---

**From:** "Tincher, Chris" <[chris\\_tincher@fws.gov](mailto:chris_tincher@fws.gov)>  
**Sent:** Wed Sep 27 2017 13:43:01 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Maestas, Aislinn" <[aislinn\\_maestas@fws.gov](mailto:aislinn_maestas@fws.gov)>  
**CC:** "Ullenberg, Beth" <[beth\\_ullenberg@fws.gov](mailto:beth_ullenberg@fws.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: Pls review draft text on proposed media conference on Border for Weekly report

Can do.  
Thanks!  
Chris

Christine R. Tincher  
Congressional Liaison / Public Affairs Specialist  
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service - Southwest Region  
New Mexico \* Arizona \* Texas \* Oklahoma

Office: (602) 889-5954  
Mobile: (505) 449-8776  
Email: [chris\\_tincher@fws.gov](mailto:chris_tincher@fws.gov)

\*\*\*\*\*

On Wed, Sep 27, 2017 at 12:35 PM, Maestas, Aislinn <[aislinn\\_maestas@fws.gov](mailto:aislinn_maestas@fws.gov)> wrote:  
I wouldn't call it a protest or even say its about protesting. It is my understanding this is a press event, where the mayors will sign/pass resolutions in opposition of the wall. I would avoid using the word protest if possible.

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**Aislinn Maestas**  
Public Affairs Specialist  
External Affairs  
Southwest Region, US Fish and Wildlife Service  
Phone: 505-248-6599  
[aislinn\\_maestas@fws.gov](mailto:aislinn_maestas@fws.gov)

# **Label: "Border Fence"**

**Created by:robert\_jess@fws.gov**

Total Messages in label:672 (227 conversations)

Created: 09-29-2017 at 11:50 AM

# Conversation Contents

## Boring/Soil Sampling

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>

---

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) cbp.dhs.gov>  
**Sent:** Wed Aug 30 2017 15:50:03 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Jess, Robert" <robert\_jess@fws.gov>  
"Edler, Scot" <scot\_edler@fws.gov>, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**CC:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>, (b) (6), (b) (7) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>, (b) (6), (b) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>, (b) (6), (b) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>, (b) (6), (b) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>  
**Subject:** Boring/Soil Sampling

Rob,

Baker International will be conducting follow up boring/soil sampling on the levee near the Santa Ana Refuge on Friday and Saturday (9/1 & 9/2). The drillers will be in the following vehicles:

- White 2011 Ford F-150
- White 2012 Ford F-250
- 2007 GMC with grey rig on back

The drillers have three sites picked out near the below landmarks:

- West End
- East End (200 yard from the end)
- Pedestrian walkway (will not interfere with visitors)

I'll provide additional updates as they become available.

Respectfully,

(b) (6), (b) (7)  
(A)Special Operations Supervisor  
RGV Sector Wall Project Delivery Team  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

"Become the kind of leader that people would follow voluntarily, even if you had no title or position." --Brian Tracy

---

**"Jess, Robert" <robert\_jess@fws.gov>**

---

**From:** "Jess, Robert" <robert\_jess@fws.gov>

**Sent:** Thu Aug 31 2017 07:54:25 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** kelly mcdowell <kelly\_mcdowell@fws.gov>  
Monica Kimbrough <monica\_kimbrough@fws.gov>, Sonny Perez  
<sonny\_perez@fws.gov>, Bryan Winton  
**CC:** <bryan\_winton@fws.gov>, Aislinn Maestas  
<aislinn\_maestas@fws.gov>, Keenan Adams  
<keenan\_adams@fws.gov>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Boring/Soil Sampling

FYI- if media or others begin to question activities occurring along Santa Ana Refuge.

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

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>  
Date: Wed, Aug 30, 2017 at 4:50 PM  
Subject: Boring/Soil Sampling  
To: "Jess, Robert" <robert\_jess@fws.gov>  
Cc: "Edler, Scot" <scot\_edler@fws.gov>, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>

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RGV Sector Wall Project Delivery Team  
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"Become the kind of leader that people would follow voluntarily, even if you had no title or position." --Brian Tracy

--  
robert jess  
project leader  
south texas refuge complex  
alamo, texas

**"Adams, Keenan" <keenan\_adams@fws.gov>**

---

**From:** "Adams, Keenan" <keenan\_adams@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu Aug 31 2017 07:59:10 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Jess, Robert" <robert\_jess@fws.gov>  
kelly mcdowell <kelly\_mcdowell@fws.gov>, Monica Kimbrough  
<monica\_kimbrough@fws.gov>, Sonny Perez  
**CC:** <sonny\_perez@fws.gov>, Bryan Winton  
<bryan\_winton@fws.gov>, Aislinn Maestas  
<aislinn\_maestas@fws.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Boring/Soil Sampling

We have updated background information that we can discuss with the media, so Aislinn can provide more info if the media inquires. Please send media her way if you get anything.

On Thu, Aug 31, 2017 at 7:54 AM, Jess, Robert <[robert\\_jess@fws.gov](mailto:robert_jess@fws.gov)> wrote:  
FYI- if media or others begin to question activities occurring along Santa Ana Refuge.

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

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>  
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**Subject:** Boring/Soil Sampling  
**To:** "Jess, Robert" <[robert\\_jess@fws.gov](mailto:robert_jess@fws.gov)>  
**Cc:** "Edler, Scot" <[scot\\_edler@fws.gov](mailto:scot_edler@fws.gov)>, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>

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RGV Sector Wall Project Delivery Team

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"Become the kind of leader that people would follow voluntarily, even if you had no title or position." --*Brian Tracy*

--

robert jess  
project leader  
south texas refuge complex  
alamo, texas

--

Keenan Adams

**Acting** Assistant Regional Director - External Affairs

August & September 2017

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service - Southwest Region

Office: 505-248-6285

*Make everything as simple as possible, but not simpler. ~Albert Einstein*

# **Label: "Border Patrol/Border Patrol FOIA 2017 (2)"**

**Created by:bryan\_winton@fws.gov**

Total Messages in label:233 (49 conversations)

Created: 09-25-2017 at 06:37 AM

# Conversation Contents

## Fill Material

**"Winton, Bryan" <bryan\_winton@fws.gov>**

---

**From:** "Winton, Bryan" <bryan\_winton@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu Jul 27 2017 14:54:07 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>  
**CC:** Rob Jess <robert\_jess@fws.gov>, Ernesto Reyes <ernesto\_reyes@fws.gov>  
**Subject:** Fill Material

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

We are very appreciative of your support (advocation) for moving the levee inward toward the levee and away from the habitat, so there will be an opportunity to reduce the actual habitat loss hopefully once the details of the project and particularly the width of the Enforcement Zone is finalized and determined.

I wanted to provide additional comment on one item. As you move the border wall in toward the levee, nearer to the middle of what is now the existing road, you gain a maximum amount of fill material that can be used for enlargement of the ramps, and/or building up the base of the wall so there is a level enforcement zone. On Santa Ana NWR, between the entrance and exit roads (black-top paved roads), where we have advocated that the enforcement zone be reduced to 50', there is a considerable stretch that intermittently serves as wetland (during flooding). This area has a ditch on the inside as well and I'm bringing this to your attention because this area is significantly lower than most of the property south of the levee. Therefore, I think that it will be necessary to import fill material to level/flatten the Enforcement Zone regardless of how wide it is and where the levee wall is built within the existing levee. I can send you some photos to try and better depict this particular area if you like. Just let me know.

I heard you mention that you want to avoid importing soil and I'm alerting you that it may not be possible to avoid, depending on the width of the enforcement zone, how far into the levee the wall is built, and how level you require the enforcement zone to be.

Sincerely,

--

Bryan R. Winton, Wildlife Refuge Manager  
Lower Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuge  
Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge  
3325 Green Jay Road, Alamo, Texas 78516  
(956) 784-7521 office; (956) 874-4304 cell  
[bryan\\_winton@fws.gov](mailto:bryan_winton@fws.gov)

# **Label: "Border Wall"**

**Created by:aislinn\_maestas@fws.gov**

Total Messages in label:361 (98 conversations)

Created: 04-12-2018 at 12:52 PM

# Conversation Contents

Fwd: Mayors of border cities event Sept 30 - Santa Ana

**"Nicholopoulos, Joy" <joy\_nicholopoulos@fws.gov>**

---

**From:** "Nicholopoulos, Joy" <joy\_nicholopoulos@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue Sep 26 2017 15:45:35 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
Lance Wenger <lance.wenger@sol.doi.gov> (b) (6), (b) (7)  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7) @nps.gov, Aislinn Maestas (b) (6), (b) (7)  
<aislinn\_maestas@fws.gov>, "Adams, Keenan"  
<keenan\_adams@fws.gov>  
**CC:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @fws.gov  
**Subject:** Fwd: Mayors of border cities event Sept 30 - Santa Ana

Hi folks-  
Please see below and forward as appropriate.  
As we get additional info, we will pass it on.  
Thanks,  
Joy

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

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @fws.gov  
Date: Tue, Sep 26, 2017 at 1:28 PM  
Subject: Fwd: Mayors of border cities event Sept 30 - Santa Ana  
To: Joy Nicholopoulos <joy\_nicholopoulos@fws.gov>, Beth Ullenberg  
<beth\_ullenberg@fws.gov>  
Cc: Aaron Archibeque <Aaron\_Archibeque@fws.gov>, Kelly McDowell  
<kelly\_mcdowell@fws.gov>, Thomas Harvey <Thomas\_Harvey@fws.gov>

Hello Joy,

Below is the latest information PL Robert Jess has obtained regarding the upcoming event that has now been pushed back to October 21, 2017. I have pulled out some of the main points for ease of reading if doing so from mobile device without having to scroll down.

**Local name of the event:** "Border Fence Community Press & Media Conference"

**Location:** Santa Ana NWR

**Purpose:** Press & media conference on local municipal and county resolutions against the fence

**Estimated attendance:** As of now, 18 Mayors from local towns of the Valley are planning to attend with that number likely to rise to 20-30 plus their Counsels. It is also possible that County Commissioners will attend as Counties develop resolutions against the fence proposal. We estimate the group size (for the moment) will be approx 50-65 people at the refuge and on the levee.

Respectfully,



# **Label: "Border Wall"**

**Created by:aislinn\_maestas@fws.gov**

Total Messages in label:361 (98 conversations)

Created: 04-12-2018 at 12:52 PM

# Conversation Contents

## C2 Visit to the Santa Ana Refuge - Who is attending?

**"Tincher, Chris" <chris\_tincher@fws.gov>**

---

**From:** "Tincher, Chris" <chris\_tincher@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri Sep 08 2017 10:59:12 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Jess, Robert" <robert\_jess@fws.gov>  
"Harvey, Thomas" <thomas\_harvey@fws.gov>, kelly mcdowell <kelly\_mcdowell@fws.gov>, Monica Kimbrough <monica\_kimbrough@fws.gov>, Sonny Perez <sonny\_perez@fws.gov>, Bryan Winton <bryan\_winton@fws.gov>, Aislinn Maestas <aislinn\_maestas@fws.gov>, Keenan Adams <keenan\_adams@fws.gov>, Beth Ullenberg <beth\_ullenberg@fws.gov>  
**CC:**  
**Subject:** C2 Visit to the Santa Ana Refuge - Who is attending?

Hi,  
Is this meeting still proposed to take place? If so, who will be participating from our agency? HQ is asking for the final Weekly report.  
Thank you,  
Chris

Christine R. Tincher  
Congressional Liaison / Public Affairs Specialist  
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Office: (602) 889-5954  
Mobile: (505) 449-8776  
Email: [chris\\_tincher@fws.gov](mailto:chris_tincher@fws.gov)

\*\*\*\*\*

On Tue, Sep 5, 2017 at 11:03 AM, Jess, Robert <[robert\\_jess@fws.gov](mailto:robert_jess@fws.gov)> wrote:

I received from Border Patrol this morning via phone call...

"Good morning Mr. Jess,

As previously discussed, we were wondering if you are available on the afternoon of September 22, 2017 to meet with Deputy Commissioner (b) at the Santa Ana Wildlife Refuge? As we receive more details, I will provide you with more information and a (b) precise time."

Discussion will focus on success stories of BP/FWS partnership at STRC and a visual of proposed border wall location for DC (b) (6),  
(b) (7)

--

robert jess  
project leader  
south texas refuge complex  
alamo, texas

## **Kelly McDowell <kelly\_mcdowell@fws.gov>**

---

**From:** Kelly McDowell <kelly\_mcdowell@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri Sep 08 2017 11:21:34 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Tincher, Chris" <chris\_tincher@fws.gov>  
"Jess, Robert" <robert\_jess@fws.gov>, "Harvey, Thomas" <thomas\_harvey@fws.gov>, Monica Kimbrough <monica\_kimbrough@fws.gov>, Sonny Perez <sonny\_perez@fws.gov>, Bryan Winton <bryan\_winton@fws.gov>, Aislinn Maestas <aislinn\_maestas@fws.gov>, Keenan Adams <keenan\_adams@fws.gov>, Beth Ullenberg <beth\_ullenberg@fws.gov>  
**CC:**  
**Subject:** Re: C2 Visit to the Santa Ana Refuge - Who is attending?

Chris,

Keenan and I have been playing phone tag. Aaron told me yesterday that Joy and possibly our new RD is attending.

Talk with Keenan!

Kelly

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 8, 2017, at 11:59 AM, Tincher, Chris <[chris\\_tincher@fws.gov](mailto:chris_tincher@fws.gov)> wrote:

Hi,  
Is this meeting still proposed to take place? If so, who will be participating from our agency? HQ is asking for the final Weekly report.  
Thank you,  
Chris

Christine R. Tincher  
Congressional Liaison / Public Affairs Specialist  
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service - Southwest Region  
New Mexico \* Arizona \* Texas \* Oklahoma

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--

robert jess  
project leader  
south texas refuge complex  
alamo, texas

## "Adams, Keenan" <[keenan\\_adams@fws.gov](mailto:keenan_adams@fws.gov)>

---

**From:** "Adams, Keenan" <[keenan\\_adams@fws.gov](mailto:keenan_adams@fws.gov)>  
**Sent:** Fri Sep 08 2017 11:47:13 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Tincher, Chris" <[chris\\_tincher@fws.gov](mailto:chris_tincher@fws.gov)>  
Kelly McDowell <[kelly\\_mcdowell@fws.gov](mailto:kelly_mcdowell@fws.gov)>, "Jess, Robert" <[robert\\_jess@fws.gov](mailto:robert_jess@fws.gov)>, "Harvey, Thomas" <[thomas\\_harvey@fws.gov](mailto:thomas_harvey@fws.gov)>, Monica Kimbrough <[monica\\_kimbrough@fws.gov](mailto:monica_kimbrough@fws.gov)>, Sonny Perez <[sonny\\_perez@fws.gov](mailto:sonny_perez@fws.gov)>, Bryan Winton <[bryan\\_winton@fws.gov](mailto:bryan_winton@fws.gov)>, Aislinn Maestas <[aislinn\\_maestas@fws.gov](mailto:aislinn_maestas@fws.gov)>, Beth Ullenberg <[beth\\_ullenberg@fws.gov](mailto:beth_ullenberg@fws.gov)>  
**CC:**  
**Subject:** Re: C2 Visit to the Santa Ana Refuge - Who is attending?

As of now Amy will be attending and I'm assuming Archibeque as well. Greg Sheehan may be attending as well, I'm waiting on a response from HQ.

Kelly and I will work on an agenda for the previous days. Amy would like to visit other areas before the Friday meeting.

On Fri, Sep 8, 2017 at 11:21 AM, Kelly McDowell <[kelly\\_mcdowell@fws.gov](mailto:kelly_mcdowell@fws.gov)> wrote:

Chris,

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Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 8, 2017, at 11:59 AM, Tincher, Chris <[chris\\_tincher@fws.gov](mailto:chris_tincher@fws.gov)> wrote:

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Thank you,  
Chris

Christine R. Tincher  
Congressional Liaison / Public Affairs Specialist  
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service - Southwest Region  
New Mexico \* Arizona \* Texas \* Oklahoma

Office: (602) 889-5954  
Mobile: (505) 449-8776  
Email: [chris\\_tincher@fws.gov](mailto:chris_tincher@fws.gov)

\*\*\*\*\*

On Tue, Sep 5, 2017 at 11:03 AM, Jess, Robert <[robert\\_jess@fws.gov](mailto:robert_jess@fws.gov)> wrote:

I received from Border Patrol this morning via phone call...

"Good morning Mr. Jess,

As previously discussed, we were wondering if you are available on the afternoon of September 22, 2017 to meet with Deputy Commissioner (b) (6) at the Santa Ana Wildlife Refuge? As we receive more details, I will provide you with more (b) (6) information and a precise time."

Discussion will focus on success stories of BP/FWS partnership at STRC and a visual of proposed border wall location for DC (b) (6),  
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--  
robert jess  
project leader  
south texas refuge complex  
alamo, texas

--  
Keenan Adams

**Acting** Assistant Regional Director - External Affairs  
August & September 2017  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service - Southwest Region  
Office: 505-248-6285

*Make everything as simple as possible, but not simpler. ~Albert Einstein*

## **Robert Jess <robert\_jess@fws.gov>**

---

**From:** Robert Jess <robert\_jess@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri Sep 08 2017 16:03:48 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Adams, Keenan" <keenan\_adams@fws.gov>  
"Tincher, Chris" <chris\_tincher@fws.gov>, Kelly McDowell  
<kelly\_mcdowell@fws.gov>, "Harvey, Thomas"  
<thomas\_harvey@fws.gov>, Monica Kimbrough  
<monica\_kimbrough@fws.gov>, Sonny Perez  
**CC:** <sonny\_perez@fws.gov>, Bryan Winton  
<bryan\_winton@fws.gov>, Aislinn Maestas  
<aislinn\_maestas@fws.gov>, Beth Ullenberg  
<beth\_ullenberg@fws.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: C2 Visit to the Santa Ana Refuge - Who is attending?

Just got off the phone with kelly so my apologies for not seeing the email sooner (scheduled day off). The answer is yes, the meeting is still scheduled but has been moved to Saturday, September 23, 2017 due to the DC2's schedule. I'll forward an email from his schedulers so that Keenan can continue to coordinate. I'd just ask that I be CC:ed as there's communication also going on behind the scenes with local BP.  
Thanks, rob

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 8, 2017, at 12:47 PM, Adams, Keenan <[keenan\\_adams@fws.gov](mailto:keenan_adams@fws.gov)> wrote:

As of now Amy will be attending and I'm assuming Archibeque as well. Greg Sheehan may be attending as well, I'm waiting on a response from HQ.

Kelly and I will work on an agenda for the previous days. Amy would like to visit other areas before the Friday meeting.

On Fri, Sep 8, 2017 at 11:21 AM, Kelly McDowell <[kelly\\_mcdowell@fws.gov](mailto:kelly_mcdowell@fws.gov)> wrote:  
Chris,

Keenan and I have been playing phone tag. Aaron told me yesterday that Joy and

possibly our new RD is attending.

Talk with Keenan!

Kelly

Sent from my iPhone

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**"Adams, Keenan" <keenan\_adams@fws.gov>**

---

**From:** "Adams, Keenan" <keenan\_adams@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue Sep 12 2017 13:24:23 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Jess, Robert" <robert\_jess@fws.gov>  
Kelly McDowell <kelly\_mcdowell@fws.gov>, "Tincher, Chris" <chris\_tincher@fws.gov>, "Harvey, Thomas" <thomas\_harvey@fws.gov>, Monica Kimbrough <monica\_kimbrough@fws.gov>, Sonny Perez <sonny\_perez@fws.gov>, Bryan Winton <bryan\_winton@fws.gov>, Aislinn Maestas <aislinn\_maestas@fws.gov>, Beth Ullenberg <beth\_ullenberg@fws.gov>  
**CC:**  
**Subject:** Re: C2 Visit to the Santa Ana Refuge - Who is attending?

Got confirmation that Sheehan will **not** be visiting.

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# **Label: "Border Fence"**

**Created by:robert\_jess@fws.gov**

Total Messages in label:672 (227 conversations)

Created: 09-29-2017 at 11:51 AM

# Conversation Contents

Baker International Surveyors (Santa Ana Refuge 2.93 miles)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>

---

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) cbp.dhs.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue Aug 15 2017 13:58:22 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Jess, Robert" <robert\_jess@fws.gov>, "Edler, Scot" <scot\_edler@fws.gov>  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
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**Subject:** Baker International Surveyors (Santa Ana Refuge 2.93 miles)

Good Afternoon Mr. Jess,

I was informed that Baker International is going to send a crew of surveyors back to the levee area near Santa Ana Refuge. The crew will be conducting follow up work and is scheduled to be in the area August 18, 2017 (Friday) and August 19, 2017 (Saturday).

At this time vehicle information is not available.

Respectfully,

(b) (6), (b) (7)  
(A)Special Operations Supervisor  
RGV Sector Wall Project Delivery Team  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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**"Jess, Robert" <robert\_jess@fws.gov>**

**From:** "Jess, Robert" <robert\_jess@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue Aug 15 2017 14:24:38 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) cbp.dhs.gov>  
"Edler, Scot" <scot\_edler@fws.gov>, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**CC:** <(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) cbp.dhs.gov>, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>, (b) (6), (b) (7)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>, (b) (6), (b)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov> (7)(C)

**Subject:** Re: Baker International Surveyors (Santa Ana Refuge 2.93 miles)

Copy that (b) (6), thanks for the heads up...  
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On Tue, Aug 15, 2017 at 2:58 PM (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
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robert jess  
project leader  
south texas refuge complex  
alamo, texas

**"Jess, Robert" <robert\_jess@fws.gov>**

---

**From:** "Jess, Robert" <robert\_jess@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue Aug 15 2017 14:26:21 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
Sonny Perez <sonny\_perez@fws.gov>, (b) (6), (b) (7)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @fws.gov>, Bryan Winton (C)  
<bryan\_winton@fws.gov>, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @fws.gov>, kelly mcdowell  
<kelly\_mcdowell@fws.gov>, Monica Kimbrough  
<monica\_kimbrough@fws.gov>, Ernesto Reyes  
<ernesto\_reyes@fws.gov>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Baker International Surveyors (Santa Ana Refuge 2.93 miles)

FYI- local staff- Please note date that surveyors will be on levee in front of SANWR

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

From: **Jess, Robert** <[robert\\_jess@fws.gov](mailto:robert_jess@fws.gov)>

Date: Tue, Aug 15, 2017 at 3:24 PM

Subject: Re: Baker International Surveyors (Santa Ana Refuge 2.93 miles)

To: "(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>

Cc: "Edler, Scot" <[scot\\_edler@fws.gov](mailto:scot_edler@fws.gov)>, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>

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@cbp.dhs.gov>

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) cbp.dhs.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue Aug 15 2017 16:01:34 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Jess, Robert" <robert\_jess@fws.gov>  
"Edler, Scot" <scot\_edler@fws.gov>, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**CC:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>, (b) (6), (b) (7)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>, (b) (6), (b)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov> (7)(C)  
**Subject:** RE: Baker International Surveyors (Santa Ana Refuge 2.93 miles)

Rob,

I was provided additional information on the survey team.

They will be conducting additional ground surveys and using hand tools to clear minimal vegetation around irrigation culverts that were not visible during the survey flyover. I was further informed that no boring/drilling will be taking place.

If additional information is provided, I will relay to you.

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alamo, texas

**"Jess, Robert" <robert\_jess@fws.gov>**

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**From:** "Jess, Robert" <robert\_jess@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Wed Aug 16 2017 07:13:15 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) cbp.dhs.gov>  
"Edler, Scot" <scot\_edler@fws.gov>, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
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**From:** Jess, Robert [mailto:[robert\\_jess@fws.gov](mailto:robert_jess@fws.gov)]

**Sent:** Tuesday, August 15, 2017 3:25 PM

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alamo, texas

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project leader  
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**To:** Bryan Winton <bryan\_winton@fws.gov>, Sonny Perez <sonny\_perez@fws.gov>  
**CC:** kelly mcdowell <kelly\_mcdowell@fws.gov>, Monica Kimbrough <monica\_kimbrough@fws.gov>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Baker International Surveyors (Santa Ana Refuge 2.93 miles)

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

**From:** **Jess, Robert** <[robert\\_jess@fws.gov](mailto:robert_jess@fws.gov)>  
**Date:** Wed, Aug 16, 2017 at 8:13 AM  
**Subject:** Re: Baker International Surveyors (Santa Ana Refuge 2.93 miles)  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>  
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**Sent:** Tuesday, August 15, 2017 3:25 PM  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>

Cc: Edler, Scot <[scot\\_edler@fws.gov](mailto:scot_edler@fws.gov)>; (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @CBP.DHS.GOV>;  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>; (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
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(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>; (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @CBP.DHS.GOV>  
Subject: Re: Baker International Surveyors (Santa Ana Refuge 2.93 miles)

Copy that (b) (6), thanks for the heads up...  
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@cbp.dhs.gov>

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**Sent:** Thu Aug 17 2017 14:41:26 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Jess, Robert" <robert\_jess@fws.gov>  
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(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
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**Sent:** Fri Aug 18 2017 06:06:03 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) cbp.dhs.gov  
"Edler, Scot" <scot\_edler@fws.gov>, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
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(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov, (b) (6), (b)  
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<sonny\_perez@fws.gov>, Bryan Winton  
<bryan\_winton@fws.gov>  
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**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) <@cbp.dhs.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri Aug 18 2017 06:09:48 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Jess, Robert" <robert\_jess@fws.gov>  
"Edler, Scot" <scot\_edler@fws.gov>, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>, (b) (6), (b) (7) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>, (b) (6), (b) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>, Sonny Perez <sonny\_perez@fws.gov>, Bryan Winton <bryan\_winton@fws.gov>  
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**Sent:** Friday, August 18, 2017 7:06 AM

**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>

**Cc:** Edler, Scot <scot\_edler@fws.gov>; (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @CBP.DHS.GOV>;

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**Sent:** Fri Aug 18 2017 06:26:32 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) <cbp.dhs.gov>  
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**Subject:** Re: Baker International Surveyors (Santa Ana Refuge 2.93 miles)

(b) (6),

(b) (7)

Have on my calendar that on Monday, August 21, 2017 we are scheduled to meet regarding the "65% design review meeting". Please let me know if this is a Go or No Go for that date as well as a time and location.

Talk soon, rob

On Thu, Aug 17, 2017 at 3:41 PM, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov> wrote:

Rob,

Updated information below:

Baker International is schedule to return to the levee near the Santa Ana Refuge to perform additional drilling and core sampling on Monday, August 21, 2017. The work is expected to be completed the same date.

Respectfully,

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

(A)Special Operations Supervisor  
RGV Sector Wall Project Delivery Team

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

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

"Become the kind of leader that people would follow voluntarily, even if you had no title or position." --Brian Tracy

**From:** Jess, Robert [mailto:[robert\\_jess@fws.gov](mailto:robert_jess@fws.gov)]

**Sent:** Wednesday, August 16, 2017 8:13 AM

**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>

**Cc:** Edler, Scot <[scot\\_edler@fws.gov](mailto:scot_edler@fws.gov)>; (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @CBP.DHS.GOV>; (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>; (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @CBP.DHS.GOV>; (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>; (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @CBP.DHS.GOV>

**Subject:** Re: Baker International Surveyors (Santa Ana Refuge 2.93 miles)

Thanks for the additional information (b) (6), (b) (7)

On Tue, Aug 15, 2017 at 5:01 PM, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov> wrote:

Rob,

I was provided additional information on the survey team.

They will be conducting additional ground surveys and using hand tools to clear minimal vegetation around irrigation culverts that were not visible during the survey flyover. I was further informed that no boring/drilling will be taking place.

If additional information is provided, I will relay to you.

Respectfully,

(b) (6), (b) (7)  
(A)Special Operations Supervisor  
RGV Sector Wall Project Delivery Team  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

"Become the kind of leader that people would follow voluntarily, even if you had no title or position." --Brian Tracy

**From:** Jess, Robert [mailto:[robert\\_jess@fws.gov](mailto:robert_jess@fws.gov)]

**Sent:** Tuesday, August 15, 2017 3:25 PM

**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>

**Cc:** Edler, Scot <[scot\\_edler@fws.gov](mailto:scot_edler@fws.gov)>; (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @CBP.DHS.GOV>; (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>; (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @CBP.DHS.GOV>; (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov>; (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @CBP.DHS.GOV>

**Subject:** Re: Baker International Surveyors (Santa Ana Refuge 2.93 miles)

Copy that (b) (6), thanks for the heads up...  
Robert (b) (7)

On Tue, Aug 15, 2017 at 2:58 PM, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @cbp.dhs.gov> wrote:

Good Afternoon Mr. Jess,

I was informed that Baker International is going to send a crew of surveyors back to the levee area near Santa Ana Refuge. The crew will be conducting follow up work and is scheduled to be in the area August 18, 2017 (Friday) and August 19, 2017 (Saturday).

At this time vehicle information is not available.

Respectfully,

(b) (6), (b) (7)  
(A)Special Operations Supervisor  
RGV Sector Wall Project Delivery Team

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

"Become the kind of leader that people would follow voluntarily, even if you had no title or position." --*Brian Tracy*

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robert jess  
project leader  
south texas refuge complex  
alamo, texas

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robert jess  
project leader  
south texas refuge complex  
alamo, texas

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robert jess  
project leader  
south texas refuge complex  
alamo, texas

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robert jess  
project leader  
south texas refuge complex  
alamo, texas

# **Label: "Border Patrol/Border Patrol FOIA 2017 (2)"**

**Created by:bryan\_winton@fws.gov**

Total Messages in label:233 (49 conversations)

Created: 09-25-2017 at 06:39 AM

# Conversation Contents

Fwd: RGV-01 Wall Design Review Meeting - PM

"Jess, Robert" <robert\_jess@fws.gov>

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**From:** "Jess, Robert" <robert\_jess@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri Jul 21 2017 12:50:43 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** Monica Kimbrough <monica\_kimbrough@fws.gov>, kelly mcdowell <kelly\_mcdowell@fws.gov>  
**CC:** Bryan Winton <bryan\_winton@fws.gov>, Ernesto Reyes <ernesto\_reyes@fws.gov>  
**Subject:** Fwd: RGV-01 Wall Design Review Meeting - PM

Monica,  
In talking with the contracted engineers and select CBP & BP folks, this "15%" is our only opportunity to really have a chance in pushing back on the 150' buffer zone - otherwise it will be a done deal...  
rob

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

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) <(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)@cbp.dhs.gov>  
**Date:** Fri, Jul 21, 2017 at 1:17 PM  
**Subject:** RGV-01 Wall Design Review Meeting - PM  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) <(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)@cbp.dhs.gov>, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) <(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)@hq.dhs.gov>, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) <(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)@cbp.dhs.gov>, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) <(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)@cbp.dhs.gov>, Padinare Unnikrishna <Padinare.Unnikrishna@ibwc.gov>, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) <(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)@usace.army.mil>, "robert\_jess@fws.gov" <robert\_jess@fws.gov>, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) <(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)@cbp.dhs.gov>, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) <(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)@cbp.dhs.gov>, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) <(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)@usace.army.mil>  
**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) <(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)@cbp.dhs.gov>, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) <(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)@cbp.dhs.gov>, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) <(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)@cbp.dhs.gov>, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) <(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)@usace.army.mil>, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) <(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)@usace.army.mil>

## 15% Submittal Discussion and Site Visit

**Date:** 25 July 2017

**Afternoon Meeting**

**Time:** 13:00 [Central Time]

**Location:** Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge

3325 Green Jay

Alamo, TX 78516

1. Conference Room Plans Review: (13:00-14:45)
  - a. Go through plans and discuss designs

- b. Determine stop points areas for site visit for efficiency.
- c. Go through RFI's, closing comments and action items
2. Discuss Onsite Visit Protocol and Safety (14:45-15:00)
3. Onsite Field Visit of Levee Site at Santa Ana NWR – West to East -(15:00-16:30)

59580278

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robert jess  
project leader  
south texas refuge complex  
alamo, texas

**"Reyes, Ernesto" <ernesto\_reyes@fws.gov>**

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**From:** "Reyes, Ernesto" <ernesto\_reyes@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon Jul 24 2017 10:21:40 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** Robert Jess <robert\_jess@fws.gov>, Bryan Winton <bryan\_winton@fws.gov>  
**Subject:** Fwd: RGV-01 Wall Design Review Meeting - PM

FYI

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

From: **Andrew, Jonathan** <[jonathan\\_andrew@ios.doi.gov](mailto:jonathan_andrew@ios.doi.gov)>  
Date: Mon, Jul 24, 2017 at 9:20 AM  
Subject: Re: RGV-01 Wall Design Review Meeting - PM  
To: "Reyes, Ernesto" <[ernesto\\_reyes@fws.gov](mailto:ernesto_reyes@fws.gov)>  
Cc: "Ardizzone, Chuck" <[chuck\\_ardizzone@fws.gov](mailto:chuck_ardizzone@fws.gov)>, Dawn Whitehead <[dawn\\_gardiner@fws.gov](mailto:dawn_gardiner@fws.gov)>, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) <(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @ios.doi.gov>

Let us know what comes of the meeting. I would think we could continue to discuss the extent of the cleared area - this isn't really a part of the design work.

On Mon, Jul 24, 2017 at 10:10 AM, Reyes, Ernesto <[ernesto\\_reyes@fws.gov](mailto:ernesto_reyes@fws.gov)> wrote:

FYI

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

From: **Jess, Robert** <[robert\\_jess@fws.gov](mailto:robert_jess@fws.gov)>  
Date: Fri, Jul 21, 2017 at 1:50 PM

Subject: Fwd: RGV-01 Wall Design Review Meeting - PM

To: Monica Kimbrough <[monica\\_kimbrough@fws.gov](mailto:monica_kimbrough@fws.gov)>, kelly mcdowell <[kelly\\_mcdowell@fws.gov](mailto:kelly_mcdowell@fws.gov)>

Cc: Bryan Winton <[bryan\\_winton@fws.gov](mailto:bryan_winton@fws.gov)>, Ernesto Reyes <[ernesto\\_reyes@fws.gov](mailto:ernesto_reyes@fws.gov)>

Monica,

In talking with the contracted engineers and select CBP & BP folks, this "15%" is our only opportunity to really have a chance in pushing back on the 150' buffer zone - otherwise it will be a done deal...

rob

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

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) <[@cbp.dhs.gov](mailto:(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)@cbp.dhs.gov)>

Date: Fri, Jul 21, 2017 at 1:17 PM

Subject: RGV-01 Wall Design Review Meeting - PM

To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) <[@cbp.dhs.gov](mailto:(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)@cbp.dhs.gov)>, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) <[@hq.dhs.gov](mailto:(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)@hq.dhs.gov)>, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) <[@cbp.dhs.gov](mailto:(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)@cbp.dhs.gov)>, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) <[@cbp.dhs.gov](mailto:(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)@cbp.dhs.gov)>, Padinare Unnikrishna <[Padinare.Unnikrishna@ibwc.gov](mailto:Padinare.Unnikrishna@ibwc.gov)>, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) <[@usace.army.mil](mailto:(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)@usace.army.mil)>, "robert\_jess@fws.gov" <[robert\\_jess@fws.gov](mailto:robert_jess@fws.gov)>, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) <[@cbp.dhs.gov](mailto:(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)@cbp.dhs.gov)>, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) <[@cbp.dhs.gov](mailto:(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)@cbp.dhs.gov)>, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) <[@usace.army.mil](mailto:(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)@usace.army.mil)>

Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) <[@cbp.dhs.gov](mailto:(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)@cbp.dhs.gov)>, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) <[@cbp.dhs.gov](mailto:(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)@cbp.dhs.gov)>, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) <[@cbp.dhs.gov](mailto:(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)@cbp.dhs.gov)>, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) <[@usace.army.mil](mailto:(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)@usace.army.mil)>, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) <[@usace.army.mil](mailto:(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)@usace.army.mil)>

## 15% Submittal Discussion and Site Visit

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3. Onsite Field Visit of Levee Site at Santa Ana NWR – West to East -(15:00-16:30)

59580278

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robert jess  
project leader  
south texas refuge complex  
alamo, texas

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Ernesto Reyes  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Texas DOI State Border Coordinator  
Alamo Ecological Service Sub-Office  
3325 Green Jay Rd  
Alamo, Texas 78516  
Tel:956-784-7560  
Fax:956-787-8338

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Jon Andrew  
Interagency Borderlands Coordinator  
Office of the Secretary  
Department of the Interior

202-320-0718 (cell)

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Ernesto Reyes  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Texas DOI State Border Coordinator  
Alamo Ecological Service Sub-Office  
3325 Green Jay Rd  
Alamo, Texas 78516  
Tel:956-784-7560  
Fax:956-787-8338

# **Label: "Border Fence"**

**Created by:robert\_jess@fws.gov**

Total Messages in label:672 (227 conversations)

Created: 09-29-2017 at 11:51 AM

# Conversation Contents

## Protest Activity At South Texas Refuge Complex -- Thank You

### Attachments:

- /26. Protest Activity At South Texas Refuge Complex -- Thank You/1.1  
636381441739047794-546779001-ProtestCoverage-3.jpg
- /26. Protest Activity At South Texas Refuge Complex -- Thank You/2.1  
636381441739047794-546779001-ProtestCoverage-3.jpg
- /26. Protest Activity At South Texas Refuge Complex -- Thank You/3.1  
636381441739047794-546779001-ProtestCoverage-3.jpg
- /26. Protest Activity At South Texas Refuge Complex -- Thank You/4.1  
636381441739047794-546779001-ProtestCoverage-3.jpg

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

@fws.gov>

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) n@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu Aug 17 2017 07:20:11 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
Aaron Archibeque <aaron\_archibeque@fws.gov>, Brett Hunter <brett\_hunter@fws.gov>, Charles Blair <charles\_blair@fws.gov>, David Viker <david\_viker@fws.gov>, Kevin Foerster <Kevin\_Foerster@fws.gov>, Kim Trust <Kim\_Trust@fws.gov>, Maureen Gallagher <maureen\_gallagher@fws.gov>, Mitch Ellis <mitch\_ellis@fws.gov>, Polly Wheeler <polly\_wheeler@fws.gov>, Scott Kahan <scott\_kahan@fws.gov>, Sharon Marino <sharon\_marino@fws.gov>, Socheata Lor <socheata\_lor@fws.gov>, Stacy Armitage <stacy\_armitage@fws.gov>, Thomas Harvey <thomas\_harvey@fws.gov>, Tom Worthington <tom\_worthington@fws.gov>, Will Meeks <will\_meeks@fws.gov>, Anthony Merrill <anthony\_merrill@fws.gov>, "Bucher, Jeremy" <jeremy\_bucher@fws.gov>, Chris Jussila <Chris\_Jussila@fws.gov>, David Bonham <david\_bonham@fws.gov>, David Nicely <David\_Nicely@fws.gov>, Gary Poen <gary\_poen@fws.gov>, Jim Hjelmgren <Jim\_Hjelmgren@fws.gov>, John Branum <john\_branum@fws.gov>, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @fws.gov>, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @fws.gov>, Vic Coffman <vic\_coffman@fws.gov>  
"Sanchez, Shaun" <shaun\_sanchez@fws.gov>, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @fws.gov>, Robert Jess <robert\_jess@fws.gov>, Sonny Perez <sonny\_perez@fws.gov>, Kelly McDowell <kelly\_mcdowell@fws.gov>, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @fws.gov> (C)  
**CC:**  
**Subject:** Protest Activity At South Texas Refuge Complex -- Thank You  
**Attachments:** 636381441739047794-546779001-ProtestCoverage-3.jpg

Last week, some 650 protesters staged a hike through the South Texas Refuge National

Wildlife Refuge Complex in opposition of the expansion of the border wall/fence in South Texas.

The region and the station, in coordination with Headquarters and the Department, implemented an Incident Management Team to manage this event.

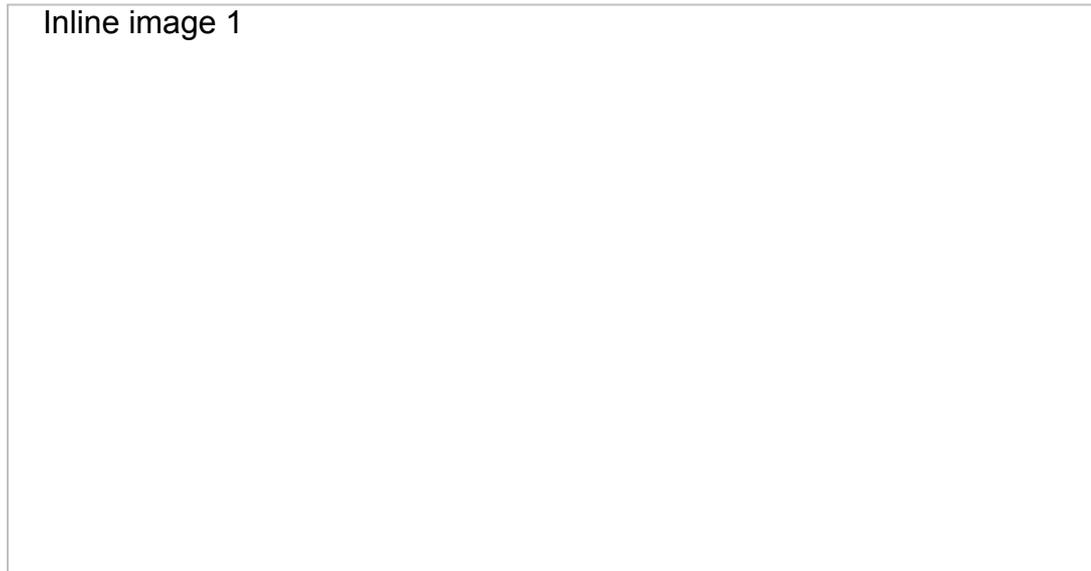
There were no significant incidents, no injuries, no arrests, and no damage to property.

The Department sent a note to the Division complimenting the planning and management of this event. This was clearly as a result of outstanding relationships and actions at the field level.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C), the Regional LE Chief for Region 2 made a point of recognizing the non-LE efforts and support that managed this incident, "It was a team effort."

This was great work done very well.

Inline image 1



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

Chief of Law Enforcement  
National Wildlife Refuge System  
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

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

*Protecting America's Wildlife and Those Who Enjoy It Since 1903*



(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @fws.gov>

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @fws.gov>

**Sent:** Thu Aug 17 2017 07:38:18 GMT-0600 (MDT)



The region and the station, in coordination with Headquarters and the Department, implemented an Incident Management Team to manage this event.

There were no significant incidents, no injuries, no arrests, and no damage to property.

The Department sent a note to the Division complimenting the planning and management of this event. This was clearly as a result of outstanding relationships and actions at the field level.

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Inline image 1



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

Chief of Law Enforcement  
National Wildlife Refuge System  
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

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

*Protecting America's Wildlife and Those Who Enjoy It Since 1903*



**"Jess, Robert" <[robert\\_jess@fws.gov](mailto:robert_jess@fws.gov)>**

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**From:** "Jess, Robert" <[robert\\_jess@fws.gov](mailto:robert_jess@fws.gov)>  
**Sent:** Thu Aug 17 2017 09:53:50 GMT-0600 (MDT)

**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @fws.gov>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Protest Activity At South Texas Refuge Complex -- Thank You  
**Attachments:** 636381441739047794-546779001-ProtestCoverage-3.jpg

(b) (6)  
(b) (6)  
Since Lety is out, would you please forward to staff, Aislinn Maestas, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C), Keenan Adams, Kelly M and Monica Kimbrough? (also please delete this line. Thanks and always remember you are part of an elite team (Merica!)),

To All,

Thank you to each of you for taking the time out of your very busy schedule to work through this issue we all are facing. Whether you were directly involved or not, this is a "we" issue. The relationships that you have formed and the expertise you have on the ground to address issues such as this helped us to organize early and communicate as needed to provide a safe environment for all involved.

If you walk with nothing else, I sincerely hope you know that we give all of the credit each of you! When our backs are against the wall (yes, I know... excuse the pun) our staff does what it takes to get the job done and for that we applaud you all for the collective effort.

On behalf of Sonny and I, again thank you!

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

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @fws.gov>  
Date: Thu, Aug 17, 2017 at 8:20 AM  
Subject: Protest Activity At South Texas Refuge Complex -- Thank You  
To: Aaron Archibeque <[aaron\\_archibeque@fws.gov](mailto:aaron_archibeque@fws.gov)>, Brett Hunter <[brett\\_hunter@fws.gov](mailto:brett_hunter@fws.gov)>, Charles Blair <[charles\\_blair@fws.gov](mailto:charles_blair@fws.gov)>, David Viker <[david\\_viker@fws.gov](mailto:david_viker@fws.gov)>, Kevin Foerster <[Kevin\\_Foerster@fws.gov](mailto:Kevin_Foerster@fws.gov)>, Kim Trust <[Kim\\_Trust@fws.gov](mailto:Kim_Trust@fws.gov)>, Maureen Gallagher <[maureen\\_gallagher@fws.gov](mailto:maureen_gallagher@fws.gov)>, Mitch Ellis <[mitch\\_ellis@fws.gov](mailto:mitch_ellis@fws.gov)>, Polly Wheeler <[polly\\_wheeler@fws.gov](mailto:polly_wheeler@fws.gov)>, Scott Kahan <[scott\\_kahan@fws.gov](mailto:scott_kahan@fws.gov)>, Sharon Marino <[sharon\\_marino@fws.gov](mailto:sharon_marino@fws.gov)>, Socheata Lor <[socheata\\_lor@fws.gov](mailto:socheata_lor@fws.gov)>, Stacy Armitage <[stacy\\_armitage@fws.gov](mailto:stacy_armitage@fws.gov)>, Thomas Harvey <[thomas\\_harvey@fws.gov](mailto:thomas_harvey@fws.gov)>, Tom Worthington <[tom\\_worthington@fws.gov](mailto:tom_worthington@fws.gov)>, Will Meeks <[will\\_meeks@fws.gov](mailto:will_meeks@fws.gov)>, Anthony Merrill <[anthony\\_merrill@fws.gov](mailto:anthony_merrill@fws.gov)>, "Bucher, Jeremy" <[jeremy\\_bucher@fws.gov](mailto:jeremy_bucher@fws.gov)>, Chris Jussila <[Chris\\_Jussila@fws.gov](mailto:Chris_Jussila@fws.gov)>, David Bonham <[david\\_bonham@fws.gov](mailto:david_bonham@fws.gov)>, David Nicely <[David\\_Nicely@fws.gov](mailto:David_Nicely@fws.gov)>, Gary Poen <[gary\\_poen@fws.gov](mailto:gary_poen@fws.gov)>, Jim Hjelmgren <[Jim\\_Hjelmgren@fws.gov](mailto:Jim_Hjelmgren@fws.gov)>, John Branum <[john\\_branum@fws.gov](mailto:john_branum@fws.gov)>, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @fws.gov>, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @fws.gov>, Vic Coffman <[vic\\_coffman@fws.gov](mailto:vic_coffman@fws.gov)>  
Cc: "Sanchez, Shaun" <[shaun\\_sanchez@fws.gov](mailto:shaun_sanchez@fws.gov)>, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @fws.gov>, Robert Jess <[robert\\_jess@fws.gov](mailto:robert_jess@fws.gov)>, Sonny Perez <[sonny\\_perez@fws.gov](mailto:sonny_perez@fws.gov)>, Kelly McDowell <[kelly\\_mcdowell@fws.gov](mailto:kelly_mcdowell@fws.gov)>, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @fws.gov>

Last week, some 650 protesters staged a hike through the South Texas Refuge National Wildlife Refuge Complex in opposition of the expansion of the border wall/fence in South Texas.

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(b) (6), (b) (7)(C), the Regional LE Chief for Region 2 made a point of recognizing the non-LE efforts and support that managed this incident, "It was a team effort."

This was great work done very well.

Inline image 1

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

Chief of Law Enforcement  
National Wildlife Refuge System  
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

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

*Protecting America's Wildlife and Those Who Enjoy It Since 1903*



--

robert jess  
project leader  
south texas refuge complex  
alamo, texas

**"Escobar, David" <david\_escobar@fws.gov>**

---

**From:** "Escobar, David" <david\_escobar@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu Aug 17 2017 10:59:30 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
Hilary Swarts <hilary\_swarts@fws.gov>, Lety Handy <lety\_handy@fws.gov>, Alejandro Rodriguez <alejandro\_rodriguez@fws.gov>, Alex Garcia <alex\_garcia@fws.gov>, Alfredo Salinas <alfredo\_salinas@fws.gov>, Alyssa Stevens <akatstevens@gmail.com>, Boyd Blihovde <boyd\_blihovde@fws.gov>, Bryan Winton <bryan\_winton@fws.gov>, Charles Walton <charles\_walton@fws.gov>, Chris Perez <chris\_perez@fws.gov>, Christopher Quezada <christopher\_quezada@fws.gov>, Cody Mann <cody\_mann@fws.gov>, Cynthia Sandoval <cynthia\_sandoval@fws.gov>, Dina Diaz <dina\_diaz@fws.gov>, "Donald, Christine" <christine\_donald@fws.gov>, Eduardo Plasencia <eduardo\_plasencia@fws.gov>, Eliseo Garcia <eliseo\_garcia@fws.gov>, Emily Averman <averman.2@buckeyemail.osu.edu>, Emily Peterson <lilpet694@gmail.com>, Emma Nehan <enehan@lssu.edu>, Eric Verderber <eric\_verderber@fws.gov>, Ernesto Reyes <ernesto\_reyes@fws.gov>, Eusebio Rodriguez <eusebio\_rodriguez@fws.gov>, Florentino Caldera <florentino\_caldera@fws.gov>, Gisela Chapa <gisela\_chapa@fws.gov>, Greta Schmidt <greta\_schmidt@fws.gov>, Imer DeLaGarza <imer\_delagarza@fws.gov>, (b) (6), (b) (7) (C) @fws.gov, Ismael Lerma <ismael\_lerma@fws.gov>, James Petty <james\_petty@fws.gov>, Jerry Longoria <gerardo\_longoria@fws.gov>, Jim Forward <jim\_forward@fws.gov>, Jonathan Moczygemba <jonathan\_moczygemba@fws.gov>, Juan Long <juan\_long@fws.gov>, Juan Rodriguez <juan\_rodriguez@fws.gov>, Kimberly Wahl <kimberly\_wahl@fws.gov>, Kylie Curtis <kmcurtis@smcm.edu>, Laura delaGarza <laura\_delagarza@fws.gov>, Marion Mason <marion\_mason@fws.gov>, Megan Villareal <villareal.megan68@yahoo.com>, Mikael Lerma <mikael\_lerma@fws.gov>, Mitch Sternberg <mitch\_sternberg@fws.gov>, Nicolas Caceres <nicolas\_caceres@fws.gov>, Nike Pappas <nikepappas@me.com>, Noe Garza <noe\_garza@fws.gov>, Raul Garza <raul\_garza@fws.gov>, Rene Avendano <rene\_avendano@fws.gov>, Rene Ruiz <rene\_ruiz@fws.gov>, Reynaldo Navarro <reynaldo\_navarro@fws.gov>, Rick Gonzalez <rick\_gonzalez@fws.gov>, Robert Jess <robert\_jess@fws.gov>, Roy Reyna <roy\_reyna@fws.gov>, Scot Edler <scot\_edler@fws.gov>, Scott Affeldt <scott\_affeldt@fws.gov>, Sonny Perez <sonny\_perez@fws.gov>, Victoria Locke <victoria\_locke@fws.gov>, (b) (6), (b) (7) (C) @fws.gov, Zeno Arevalo <zeno\_arevalo@fws.gov>, Aislinn Maestas <aislinn\_maestas@fws.gov>, Keenan Adams <keenan\_adams@fws.gov>, (b) (6), (b) (7) (C) @fws.gov, Kelly McDowell <kelly\_mcdowell@fws.gov>, Monica Kimbrough <monica\_kimbrough@fws.gov>

**Subject:** Fwd: Protest Activity At South Texas Refuge Complex -- Thank You

**Attachments:** 636381441739047794-546779001-ProtestCoverage-3.jpg

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

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @fws.gov>

Date: Thu, Aug 17, 2017 at 11:00 AM

Subject: Protest Activity At South Texas Refuge Complex -- Thank You

To: David Escobar <david\_escobar@fws.gov>

To All,

Thank you to each of you for taking the time out of your very busy schedule to work through this issue we all are facing. Whether you were directly involved or not, this is a "we" issue. The relationships that you have formed and the expertise you have on the ground to address issues such as this helped us to organize early and communicate as needed to provide a safe environment for all involved.

If you walk with nothing else, I sincerely hope you know that we give all of the credit each of you! When our backs are against the wall (yes, I know... excuse the pun) our staff does what it takes to get the job done and for that we applaud you all for the collective effort.

On behalf of Sonny and I, again thank you!

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

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @fws.gov>

Date: Thu, Aug 17, 2017 at 8:20 AM

Subject: Protest Activity At South Texas Refuge Complex -- Thank You

To: Aaron Archibeque <aaron\_archibeque@fws.gov>, Brett Hunter <brett\_hunter@fws.gov>, Charles Blair <charles\_blair@fws.gov>, David Viker <david\_viker@fws.gov>, Kevin Foerster <Kevin\_Foerster@fws.gov>, Kim Trust <Kim\_Trust@fws.gov>, Maureen Gallagher <maureen\_gallagher@fws.gov>, Mitch Ellis <mitch\_ellis@fws.gov>, Polly Wheeler <polly\_wheeler@fws.gov>, Scott Kahan <scott\_kahan@fws.gov>, Sharon Marino <sharon\_marino@fws.gov>, Socheata Lor <socheata\_lor@fws.gov>, Stacy Armitage <stacy\_armitage@fws.gov>, Thomas Harvey <thomas\_harvey@fws.gov>, Tom Worthington <tom\_worthington@fws.gov>, Will Meeks <will\_meeks@fws.gov>, Anthony Merrill <anthony\_merrill@fws.gov>, "Bucher, Jeremy" <jeremy\_bucher@fws.gov>, Chris Jussila <Chris\_Jussila@fws.gov>, David Bonham <david\_bonham@fws.gov>, David Nicely <David\_Nicely@fws.gov>, Gary Poen <gary\_poen@fws.gov>, Jim Hjelmgren <Jim\_Hjelmgren@fws.gov>, John Branum <john\_branum@fws.gov>, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @fws.gov>, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @fws.gov>, Vic Coffman <vic\_coffman@fws.gov>

Cc: "Sanchez, Shaun" <shaun\_sanchez@fws.gov>, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @fws.gov>, Robert Jess <robert\_jess@fws.gov>, Sonny Perez <sonny\_perez@fws.gov>, Kelly McDowell <kelly\_mcdowell@fws.gov>, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) @fws.gov>

Last week, some 650 protesters staged a hike through the South Texas Refuge National Wildlife Refuge Complex in opposition of the expansion of the border wall/fence in South Texas.

The region and the station, in coordination with Headquarters and the Department, implemented an Incident Management Team to manage this event.

There were no significant incidents, no injuries, no arrests, and no damage to property.

The Department sent a note to the Division complimenting the planning and management of this event. This was clearly as a result of outstanding relationships and actions at the field level.

Joe Mojica, the Regional LE Chief for Region 2 made a point of recognizing the non-LE efforts and support that managed this incident, "It was a team effort."

This was great work done very well.

Inline image 1



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

Chief of Law Enforcement  
National Wildlife Refuge System  
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

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

*Protecting America's Wildlife and Those Who Enjoy It Since 1903*



--

robert jess  
project leader  
south texas refuge complex  
alamo, texas

# **Label: "Border Patrol/Border Patrol FOIA 2017 (2)"**

**Created by:bryan\_winton@fws.gov**

Total Messages in label:233 (49 conversations)

Created: 09-25-2017 at 06:41 AM

# Conversation Contents

Border wall update

**"Jess, Robert" <robert\_jess@fws.gov>**

---

**From:** "Jess, Robert" <robert\_jess@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu Jul 20 2017 08:07:42 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** Monica Kimbrough <monica\_kimbrough@fws.gov>, kelly mcdowell <kelly\_mcdowell@fws.gov>  
**CC:** Bryan Winton <bryan\_winton@fws.gov>, Dawn Gardner <dawn\_gardiner@fws.gov>, Ernesto Reyes <ernesto\_reyes@fws.gov>  
**Subject:** Border wall update

Bryan Winton (manager of LRGV and SANWR) and Ernesto Reyes (ES) will be in the field over the next couple of days to map out each tract of LRGV to assess the potential impacts of the proposed border wall. Specifically, they will evaluate vegetation types and how much habitat (in acres) could be affected by the proposed 150' buffer. We do know that some refuge tracts will no longer exist (though we will still have title to the property).

A preliminary estimate shows that 44-50 acres of the Santa Ana Refuge will be affected by a buffer zone within the 2.9 mile swath along the levee. Given the fact that the refuge is only 2,088 acres, this is still a significant reduction of the single largest tract of habitat left in south Texas.

end of report

--

robert jess  
project leader  
south texas refuge complex  
alamo, texas

# **Label: "Border Fence"**

**Created by:robert\_jess@fws.gov**

Total Messages in label:672 (227 conversations)

Created: 09-29-2017 at 11:53 AM

# Conversation Contents

## Senator Cruz Visit to SANWR

### "Jess, Robert" <robert\_jess@fws.gov>

---

**From:** "Jess, Robert" <robert\_jess@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Wed Aug 16 2017 10:08:00 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
"Tincher, Chris" <chris\_tincher@fws.gov>, kelly mcdowell <kelly\_mcdowell@fws.gov>, "Harvey, Thomas" <thomas\_harvey@fws.gov>, Monica Kimbrough <monica\_kimbrough@fws.gov>, Keenan Adams <keenan\_adams@fws.gov>, Aislinn Maestas <aislinn\_maestas@fws.gov>, Sonny Perez <sonny\_perez@fws.gov>, Bryan Winton <bryan\_winton@fws.gov>  
**To:**  
**Subject:** Senator Cruz Visit to SANWR

Just received a call from Cassandra Meade, Deputy State Director of Sen. Ted Cruz office that the Senator plans to make a visit to the refuge on Tuesday, 8/22/17. A more specific plan will be sent to Chris T. but he'd like to have a low profile meeting with us and BP (regarding the proposed fence site) at the refuge followed by a tour of the area. Also as a side bar, the Senator will be meeting with Ag people that morning and would like a an update or briefing as to what FWS has accomplished in support of the CFT. Based on what Cassandra mentioned, they are not aware of all that has been done by FWS in support of USDA / TAHC.

rob

--

robert jess  
project leader  
south texas refuge complex  
alamo, texas

### "Tincher, Chris" <chris\_tincher@fws.gov>

---

**From:** "Tincher, Chris" <chris\_tincher@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Wed Aug 16 2017 10:13:45 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Jess, Robert" <robert\_jess@fws.gov>  
kelly mcdowell <kelly\_mcdowell@fws.gov>, "Harvey, Thomas" <thomas\_harvey@fws.gov>, Monica Kimbrough <monica\_kimbrough@fws.gov>, Keenan Adams <keenan\_adams@fws.gov>, Aislinn Maestas <aislinn\_maestas@fws.gov>, Sonny Perez <sonny\_perez@fws.gov>, Bryan Winton <bryan\_winton@fws.gov>  
**CC:**  
**Subject:** Re: Senator Cruz Visit to SANWR

Thanks Rob. I spoke with Cassandra last night. She was looking to get this approved with her DC office before sending anything final. Sounds like a great opp to provide a briefing on other things taking place, if it works out. I'm working to clear this potential site visit with HQ / DOI.

Please keep this close hold for now.

Thanks,  
Chris

Christine R. Tincher  
Congressional Liaison / Public Affairs Specialist  
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service - Southwest Region  
New Mexico \* Arizona \* Texas \* Oklahoma

Office: (602) 889-5954  
Mobile: (505) 449-8776  
Email: [chris\\_tincher@fws.gov](mailto:chris_tincher@fws.gov)

\*\*\*\*\*

On Wed, Aug 16, 2017 at 9:08 AM, Jess, Robert <[robert\\_jess@fws.gov](mailto:robert_jess@fws.gov)> wrote:

Just received a call from Cassandra Meade, Deputy State Director of Sen. Ted Cruz office that the Senator plans to make a visit to the refuge on Tuesday, 8/22/17. A more specific plan will be sent to Chris T. but he'd like to have a low profile meeting with us and BP (regarding the proposed fence site) at the refuge followed by a tour of the area. Also as a side bar, the Senator will be meeting with Ag people that morning and would like a an update or briefing as to what FWS has accomplished in support of the CFT. Based on what Cassandra mentioned, they are not aware of all that has been done by FWS in support of USDA / TAHC.

rob

--

robert jess  
project leader  
south texas refuge complex  
alamo, texas

# **Label: "Border Patrol/Border Patrol FOIA 2017 (2)"**

**Created by:bryan\_winton@fws.gov**

Total Messages in label:233 (49 conversations)

Created: 09-25-2017 at 06:42 AM

# Conversation Contents

Contact w/ BP Sector Chief ex 6 &  
7c

**"Jess, Robert" <robert\_jess@fws.gov>**

---

**From:** "Jess, Robert" <robert\_jess@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon Jul 17 2017 14:26:24 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** Monica Kimbrough <monica\_kimbrough@fws.gov>  
Bryan Winton <bryan\_winton@fws.gov>, Sonny Perez  
**CC:** <sonny\_perez@fws.gov>, kelly mcdowell  
<kelly\_mcdowell@fws.gov>  
**Subject:** Contact w/ BP Sector Chief (b) (6),  
(b) (7)

Sector Chief (b) (6),  
(b) (7) contacted me this afternoon to discuss the recent article in the Texas Observer as it undermined his plan to let the Mayors of all the affected towns know in a Mayoral meeting tomorrow. I shared his concern as we were caught off guard with protesters handing pamphlets out to the public at a refuge event. I also reaffirmed our commitment to the sensitivity of the issue by stating that it was not my staff that leaked it out to the press.

He would like to meet me to discuss how we can minimally impact SANWR. The Chief also stated that his plan was to begin in Starr County and not here at the refuge but that the Administration pointed here (refuge lands) as the easy place to begin and continue the border wall. He also stated that he is willing to compromise where he can on the issue, especially at SANWR but is not sure he has any authority to do so at this point since the Administration countered his original proposal with their own. Chief (b) (6),  
(b) (7) has a meeting with the Administration this week and will get back to me what he can and cant commit to

We have agreed to meet at the refuge to discuss proposals and all options to avoid or minimize impacts to Santa Ana Refuge

rob

<https://www.texasobserver.org/trump-border-wall-texas-wildlife-refuge-breaking/>

--

robert jess  
project leader  
south texas refuge complex  
alamo, texas

**"Winton, Bryan" <bryan\_winton@fws.gov>**

---

**From:** "Winton, Bryan" <bryan\_winton@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon Jul 17 2017 14:35:37 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Jess, Robert" <robert\_jess@fws.gov>

**Subject:** Re: Contact w/ BP Sector Chief (b) (6), (b) (7)

Wow. At least we will get to meet him alas?

bryan

On Mon, Jul 17, 2017 at 3:26 PM, Jess, Robert <[robert\\_jess@fws.gov](mailto:robert_jess@fws.gov)> wrote:

Sector Chief (b) (6), (b) (7) contacted me this afternoon to discuss the recent article in the Texas Observer as it undermined his plan to let the Mayors of all the affected towns know in a Mayoral meeting tomorrow. I shared his concern as we were caught off guard with protesters handing pamphlets out to the public at a refuge event. I also reaffirmed our commitment to the sensitivity of the issue by stating that it was not my staff that leaked it out to the press.

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<https://www.texasobserver.org/trump-border-wall-texas-wildlife-refuge-breaking/>

--

robert jess  
project leader  
south texas refuge complex  
alamo, texas

--

Bryan R. Winton, Wildlife Refuge Manager  
Lower Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuge  
Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge  
3325 Green Jay Road, Alamo, Texas 78516  
(956) 784-7521 office; (956) 874-4304 cell  
[bryan\\_winton@fws.gov](mailto:bryan_winton@fws.gov)

**Monica Kimbrough <[monica\\_kimbrough@fws.gov](mailto:monica_kimbrough@fws.gov)>**

---

**From:** Monica Kimbrough <[monica\\_kimbrough@fws.gov](mailto:monica_kimbrough@fws.gov)>  
**Sent:** Mon Jul 17 2017 15:07:03 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Jess, Robert" <[robert\\_jess@fws.gov](mailto:robert_jess@fws.gov)>  
Bryan Winton <[bryan\\_winton@fws.gov](mailto:bryan_winton@fws.gov)>, Sonny Perez  
<[sonny\\_perez@fws.gov](mailto:sonny_perez@fws.gov)>, kelly mcdowell  
<[kelly\\_mcdowell@fws.gov](mailto:kelly_mcdowell@fws.gov)>  
**CC:**

**Subject:**

Re: Contact w/ BP Sector Chief (b) (6),  
(b) (7)

Thanks, Rob. Please let me know when meeting is scheduled and also if any additional conversations occur.

Just a reminder, all questions/media/congressional inquires should be sent to External Affairs, Aislinn Maestas 505-248-6599. She is aware of the recent interest and is working with DOI.

Thanks for keeping me updated, I have shared this information with leadership.

Monica

Monica Kimbrough  
Assistant Refuge Supervisor  
USFWS, National Wildlife Refuge System  
Southwest Region  
office: [505-248-7419](tel:505-248-7419)  
cell: [505-366-4628](tel:505-366-4628)

Please excuse errors, sent from my iPhone

On Jul 17, 2017, at 2:26 PM, Jess, Robert <[robert\\_jess@fws.gov](mailto:robert_jess@fws.gov)> wrote:

Sector Chief (b) (6),  
(b) (7) contacted me this afternoon to discuss the recent article in the Texas Observer as it undermined his plan to let the Mayors of all the affected towns know in a Mayoral meeting tomorrow. I shared his concern as we were caught off guard with protesters handing pamphlets out to the public at a refuge event. I also reaffirmed our commitment to the sensitivity of the issue by stating that it was not my staff that leaked it out to the press.

He would like to meet me to discuss how we can minimally impact SANWR. The Chief also stated that his plan was to begin in Starr County and not here at the refuge but that the Administration pointed here (refuge lands) as the easy place to begin and continue the border wall. He also stated that he is willing to compromise where he can on the issue, especially at SANWR but is not sure he has any authority to do so at this point since the Administration countered his original proposal with their own. Chief (b) (6),  
(b) (7) has a meeting with the Administration this week and will get back to me what he can and cant commit to

We have agreed to meet at the refuge to discuss proposals and all options to avoid or minimize impacts to Santa Ana Refuge

rob

<https://www.texasobserver.org/trump-border-wall-texas-wildlife-refuge-breaking/>

--

robert jess  
project leader  
south texas refuge complex  
alamo, texas

# **Label: "Border Wall"**

**Created by:aislinn\_maestas@fws.gov**

Total Messages in label:361 (98 conversations)

Created: 04-12-2018 at 12:57 PM

# Conversation Contents

URGENT: CANCELED Fwd: Santa Ana NWR / Sen. Cruz visit

**"Adams, Keenan" <keenan\_adams@fws.gov>**

---

**From:** "Adams, Keenan" <keenan\_adams@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon Aug 21 2017 08:05:22 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
Aaron Archibeque <aaron\_archibeque@fws.gov>, "Tincher, Chris" <chris\_tincher@fws.gov>, Joy Nicholopoulos <joy\_nicholopoulos@fws.gov>, Robert Jess <robert\_jess@fws.gov>, Aislinn Maestas <aislinn\_maestas@fws.gov>, Benjamin Tuggle <benjamin\_tuggle@fws.gov>, Kelly McDowell <kelly\_mcdowell@fws.gov>  
**To:** Thomas Harvey <thomas\_harvey@fws.gov>, Martin Kodis <martin\_kodis@fws.gov>  
**CC:** URGENT: CANCELED Fwd: Santa Ana NWR / Sen. Cruz visit  
**Subject:**

All,

We just got word that Cruz cancelled his visit to Santa Ana.

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

From: **Chambers, Micah** <[micah\\_chambers@ios.doi.gov](mailto:micah_chambers@ios.doi.gov)>  
Date: Mon, Aug 21, 2017 at 7:52 AM  
Subject: Re: Santa Ana NWR / Sen. Cruz visit  
To: Martin Kodis <[martin\\_kodis@fws.gov](mailto:martin_kodis@fws.gov)>  
Cc: "Adams, Keenan" <[keenan\\_adams@fws.gov](mailto:keenan_adams@fws.gov)>, Lisa Jones <[lisa\\_m\\_jones@fws.gov](mailto:lisa_m_jones@fws.gov)>, Barbara Wainman <[barbara\\_wainman@fws.gov](mailto:barbara_wainman@fws.gov)>

I'm assuming you all got this information that the Senator was postponing? I just received it this morning.

...

Hi Micah!

Hope you had a great weekend! I'm not sure if you received my message Friday afternoon we are going post pone our visit with BP and USFW until September recess. I'm so sorry but our first meeting was moved and wasn't going to allow us much time with BP or USFW and Senator didn't want to rush the briefing or tour.

I appreciate your time and will be in contact with you once we set our new date, I look forward to meeting you in person

Thank you for all that you do, Micah!

**Casandra L. Meade**

*Deputy State Director*

*South Texas Regional Director*

Office of U.S. Senator Ted Cruz (R-TX)

200 S 10th St., Ste 1603

McAllen, TX 78501

O: 956-686-7339

C: 202-412-6946

<http://www.cruz.senate.gov>

On Fri, Aug 18, 2017 at 4:53 PM, Martin Kodis <[martin\\_kodis@fws.gov](mailto:martin_kodis@fws.gov)> wrote:  
Hi Keenan and Micah.

This email serves to connect you two. I'm copying Lisa as she was involved in this as well during my absence the past number of days and Barbara, my boss.

Keenan, acting assistant director for external affairs, Southwest region, is coordinating logistics for Senator Cruz's visit to Santa Ana NWR on Tuesday. I believe he'll be on location this Monday.

Micah, who leads the office of congressional affairs for the Secretary of the Interior, will arriving in TX on Monday to be at the Senator's visit.

Micah, you had asked for a list of FWS attendees at the visit. Keenan may be able to add to this list:

- Joy Nicholopoulos, Deputy Director, Southwest Region
- Aaron Archibeque, Refuge Chief, Southwest Region
- -Keenan Adams, acting AD External Affairs, Southwest Region

I assume the refuge manager and other refuge staff will be present as well as folks from CBP.

Keenan, it would be great if you could respond to this with any logistical information for Micah and ideally to facilitate his visit to the refuge, etc. I understand that Micah will have a rental car and probably can get himself to the refuge.

Micah, fyi, Keenan's cell phone is 321-745-0873. You may want to text Keenan so he has your cell phone.

Thanks all, and please let me and Lisa know if there is anything we can do to help.

Marty

--

Micah Chambers  
Acting Director  
Office of Congressional & Legislative Affairs  
Office of the Secretary of the Interior

--

Keenan Adams

**Acting** Assistant Regional Director - External Affairs  
August & September 2017  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service - Southwest Region  
Office: 505-248-6285

*Make everything as simple as possible, but not simpler. ~Albert Einstein*

# **Label: "Border Wall"**

**Created by:aislinn\_maestas@fws.gov**

Total Messages in label:361 (98 conversations)

Created: 04-12-2018 at 12:57 PM

# Conversation Contents

Re: Santa Ana NWR / Sen. Cruz visit

**Keenan Adams <keenan\_adams@fws.gov>**

---

**From:** Keenan Adams <keenan\_adams@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri Aug 18 2017 17:35:17 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Chambers, Micah" <micah\_chambers@ios.doi.gov>  
Martin Kodis <martin\_kodis@fws.gov>, Lisa Jones <lisa\_m\_jones@fws.gov>, Barbara Wainman <barbara\_wainman@fws.gov>, Chris Tincher <chris\_tincher@fws.gov>, Aislinn Maestas <aislinn\_maestas@fws.gov>  
**CC:**  
**Subject:** Re: Santa Ana NWR / Sen. Cruz visit

Micah,

We do not a final agenda, as we are seeking to get confirmation from BP. We were unable to get a response today. We will have something shored-up by Monday. Cruz's office was coordinating directly with BP, so there has been delays.

Below is our tentative agenda. I do not suspect anything will deviate, however, we wanted to run this by CBP.

Rest assured, as soon as we get something finalized, you'll have a copy.

Regards,

## **Tuesday August 22nd -- Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge**

10:45 am -- Senator arrives

10:45 -- 10:50 -- Welcome & Introduction to FWS and BP staff / Walk through Visitor's Center -- @ Entrance

10:50 -- 10:55-- FWS overview of the Refuge -- @ Conference Room

10:55 --11:00 -- BP overview of operations -- @ Conference Room

11:00 -- 11:05 -- Q&A's / Show on Map where tour will go -- @ Conference Room

11:05 -- 11:10 -- Restroom Break, Organize into vehicles

11:10-- 11:20 -- Drive to tour areas on Refuge

11:20 -- 11:50 -- Tour/discussion of area and proposed border security options -- @ Several points along Access Road

11:50 -- 12:00 -- Drive back to Visitor's Center

12:05 -- Senator departs

Sent from my iPad

On Aug 18, 2017, at 3:46 PM, Chambers, Micah <[micah\\_chambers@ios.doi.gov](mailto:micah_chambers@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Do we have a final agenda?

On Fri, Aug 18, 2017 at 4:53 PM, Martin Kodis <[martin\\_kodis@fws.gov](mailto:martin_kodis@fws.gov)> wrote:  
Hi Keenan and Micah.

This email serves to connect you two. I'm copying Lisa as she was involved in this as well during my absence the past number of days and Barbara, my boss.

Keenan, acting assistant director for external affairs, Southwest region, is coordinating logistics for Senator Cruz's visit to Santa Ana NWR on Tuesday. I believe he'll be on location this Monday.

Micah, who leads the office of congressional affairs for the Secretary of the Interior, will arriving in TX on Monday to be at the Senator's visit.

Micah, you had asked for a list of FWS attendees at the visit. Keenan may be able to add to this list:

- Joy Nicholopoulos, Deputy Director, Southwest Region
- Aaron Archibeque, Refuge Chief, Southwest Region
- Keenan Adams, acting AD External Affairs, Southwest Region

I assume the refuge manager and other refuge staff will be present as well as folks from CBP.

Keenan, it would be great if you could respond to this with any logistical information for Micah and ideally to facilitate his visit to the refuge, etc. I understand that Micah will have a rental car and probably can get himself to the refuge.

Micah, fyi, Keenan's cell phone is 321-745-0873. You may want to text Keenan so he has your cell phone.

Thanks all, and please let me and Lisa know if there is anything we can do to help.

Marty

--

Micah Chambers  
Acting Director  
Office of Congressional & Legislative Affairs  
Office of the Secretary of the Interior

# **Label: "Border Fence"**

**Created by:robert\_jess@fws.gov**

Total Messages in label:672 (227 conversations)

Created: 09-29-2017 at 11:56 AM



# Conversation Contents

ON MSN NEWS ON INTERNET NEW YORK TIMES

**"Handy, Lety" <lety\_handy@fws.gov>**

---

**From:** "Handy, Lety" <lety\_handy@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon Aug 14 2017 05:27:28 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** Sonny Perez <sonny\_perez@fws.gov>, Robert Jess <robert\_jess@fws.gov>  
**Subject:** ON MSN NEWS ON INTERNET NEW YORK TIMES

<http://www.msn.com/en-us/news/us/texas-naturalists-also-see-the-border-wall-as-a-threat/ar-AAq2e89?li=BBnbcA1>

# **Label: "Border Wall"**

**Created by:aislinn\_maestas@fws.gov**

Total Messages in label:361 (98 conversations)

Created: 04-12-2018 at 12:58 PM

# Conversation Contents

Public Inquiry - Concern about proposed border wall

**"Tincher, Chris" <chris\_tincher@fws.gov>**

---

**From:** "Tincher, Chris" <chris\_tincher@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Wed Aug 16 2017 11:30:46 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
Keenan Adams <keenan\_adams@fws.gov>, Aaron Archibeque  
<aaron\_archibeque@fws.gov>, Thomas Harvey  
**To:** <thomas\_harvey@fws.gov>, Aislinn Maestas  
<aislinn\_maestas@fws.gov>  
**Subject:** Public Inquiry - Concern about proposed border wall

Please see the email from Dorothy Verhalen below.

[dorothyv@charter.net](mailto:dorothyv@charter.net)

Suggest a simple email of acknowledgment along with approved language on proposed wall. Please let me know your preference on who should respond.

Thank you,  
Chris

Christine R. Tincher  
Congressional Liaison / Public Affairs Specialist  
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service - Southwest Region  
New Mexico \* Arizona \* Texas \* Oklahoma

Office: (602) 889-5954  
Mobile: (505) 449-8776  
Email: [chris\\_tincher@fws.gov](mailto:chris_tincher@fws.gov)

\*\*\*\*\*

----- Forwarded message -----  
From: <[dorothyv@charter.net](mailto:dorothyv@charter.net)>  
Date: Wed, Aug 16, 2017 at 11:48 AM  
Subject: New message from Contact Us form  
To: [contact2@fws.gov](mailto:contact2@fws.gov)

Email submitted from Contact Us form received: 8/16/2017 09:48:08 MT  
Message ID: 354E1DB3-CB5E-B165-BE1FEF2E9D90DAE4

From: [dorothyv@charter.net](mailto:dorothyv@charter.net)  
First Name: Dorothy Verhalen  
Last Name:  
State: TX  
Country: US

I was very interested in an editorial that appeared today (8/16/17) in the Dallas Morning News regarding the Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge. It stated that if "The Wall" proposed by Trump for border security should go through this refuge, that it would cause irreparable damage to wildlife and habitat. I don't know who to write about this, but please try to stop it if you can!! If you have another suggestion of whom to contact, let me know.

**"Harvey, Thomas" <thomas\_harvey@fws.gov>**

---

**From:** "Harvey, Thomas" <thomas\_harvey@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Wed Aug 16 2017 11:35:59 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Tincher, Chris" <chris\_tincher@fws.gov>  
**CC:** Keenan Adams <keenan\_adams@fws.gov>, Aaron Archibeque <aaron\_archibeque@fws.gov>, Aislinn Maestas <aislinn\_maestas@fws.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Public Inquiry - Concern about proposed border wall

I recommend Aislinn or Beth respond.

Tom

On Wed, Aug 16, 2017 at 11:30 AM, Tincher, Chris <[chris\\_tincher@fws.gov](mailto:chris_tincher@fws.gov)> wrote:

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First Name: Dorothy Verhalen  
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Tom Harvey  
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service  
Deputy Regional Chief / NWRS  
Southwest Region, Albuquerque, NM  
505-248-6645, 6460 fax  
505-238-4355 cell

## **"Adams, Keenan" <[keenan\\_adams@fws.gov](mailto:keenan_adams@fws.gov)>**

---

**From:** "Adams, Keenan" <[keenan\\_adams@fws.gov](mailto:keenan_adams@fws.gov)>  
**Sent:** Wed Aug 16 2017 11:40:02 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Harvey, Thomas" <[thomas\\_harvey@fws.gov](mailto:thomas_harvey@fws.gov)>  
"Tincher, Chris" <[chris\\_tincher@fws.gov](mailto:chris_tincher@fws.gov)>, Aaron Archibeque  
**CC:** <[aaron\\_archibeque@fws.gov](mailto:aaron_archibeque@fws.gov)>, Aislinn Maestas  
<[aislinn\\_maestas@fws.gov](mailto:aislinn_maestas@fws.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: Public Inquiry - Concern about proposed border wall

Thanks Tom.

Aislinn,

Can you provide her with our approved response.

On Wed, Aug 16, 2017 at 11:35 AM, Harvey, Thomas <[thomas\\_harvey@fws.gov](mailto:thomas_harvey@fws.gov)> wrote:  
I recommend Aislinn or Beth respond.

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505-248-6645, 6460 fax  
505-238-4355 cell

--

Keenan Adams

**Acting** Assistant Regional Director - External Affairs  
August & September 2017  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service - Southwest Region  
Office: 505-248-6285

Make everything as simple as possible, but not simpler. ~Albert Einstein

**"Maestas, Aislinn" <aislinn\_maestas@fws.gov>**

---

**From:** "Maestas, Aislinn" <aislinn\_maestas@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Wed Aug 16 2017 12:08:09 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Adams, Keenan" <keenan\_adams@fws.gov>  
**CC:** "Harvey, Thomas" <thomas\_harvey@fws.gov>, "Tincher, Chris" <chris\_tincher@fws.gov>, Aaron Archibeque <aaron\_archibeque@fws.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Public Inquiry - Concern about proposed border wall

Responded. For all future inquiries please send my way.

Thanks,  
- Aislinn

On Wed, Aug 16, 2017 at 11:40 AM, Adams, Keenan <[keenan\\_adams@fws.gov](mailto:keenan_adams@fws.gov)> wrote:  
Thanks Tom.

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August & September 2017  
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**Aislinn Maestas**  
Public Affairs Specialist  
External Affairs  
Southwest Region, US Fish and Wildlife Service  
Phone: 505-248-6599  
[aislinn\\_maestas@fws.gov](mailto:aislinn_maestas@fws.gov)

**"Tincher, Chris" <[chris\\_tincher@fws.gov](mailto:chris_tincher@fws.gov)>**

---

**From:** "Tincher, Chris" <chris\_tincher@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Wed Aug 16 2017 12:25:31 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Maestas, Aislinn" <aislinn\_maestas@fws.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Public Inquiry - Concern about proposed border wall

Thanks, Aislinn. I will let HQ know you provided a response.

Christine R. Tincher  
Congressional Liaison / Public Affairs Specialist  
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service - Southwest Region  
New Mexico \* Arizona \* Texas \* Oklahoma

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External Affairs

Southwest Region, US Fish and Wildlife Service

Phone: 505-248-6599

[aislinn\\_maestas@fws.gov](mailto:aislinn_maestas@fws.gov)

## "Archibeque, Aaron" <[aaron\\_archibeque@fws.gov](mailto:aaron_archibeque@fws.gov)>

---

**From:** "Archibeque, Aaron" <[aaron\\_archibeque@fws.gov](mailto:aaron_archibeque@fws.gov)>  
**Sent:** Wed Aug 16 2017 17:18:14 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Maestas, Aislinn" <[aislinn\\_maestas@fws.gov](mailto:aislinn_maestas@fws.gov)>  
**CC:** "Adams, Keenan" <[keenan\\_adams@fws.gov](mailto:keenan_adams@fws.gov)>, "Harvey, Thomas" <[thomas\\_harvey@fws.gov](mailto:thomas_harvey@fws.gov)>, "Tincher, Chris" <[chris\\_tincher@fws.gov](mailto:chris_tincher@fws.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: Public Inquiry - Concern about proposed border wall

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Keenan Adams

**Acting** Assistant Regional Director - External Affairs  
August & September 2017  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service - Southwest Region  
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Aislinn Maestas  
Public Affairs Specialist

External Affairs  
Southwest Region, US Fish and Wildlife Service  
Phone: 505-248-6599  
[aislinn\\_maestas@fws.gov](mailto:aislinn_maestas@fws.gov)

--

Aaron M. Archibeque  
Regional Chief  
National Wildlife Refuge System  
Southwest Region  
505-248-6937 wk  
505-401-1397 cell

# **Label: "Border Wall"**

**Created by:aislinn\_maestas@fws.gov**

Total Messages in label:361 (98 conversations)

Created: 04-12-2018 at 13:01 PM

# Conversation Contents

## Plan of Action for Visit with Sen Cornyn's & The Santa Ana Protest

**"Adams, Keenan" <keenan\_adams@fws.gov>**

---

**From:** "Adams, Keenan" <keenan\_adams@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon Aug 07 2017 07:35:35 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** Aislinn Maestas <aislinn\_maestas@fws.gov>, "Tincher, Chris" <chris\_tincher@fws.gov>  
Kelly McDowell <kelly\_mcdowell@fws.gov>, Aaron Archibeque <aaron\_archibeque@fws.gov>, Monica Kimbrough <monica\_kimbrough@fws.gov>, Robert Jess <robert\_jess@fws.gov>  
**CC:**  
**Subject:** Plan of Action for Visit with Sen Cornyn's & The Santa Ana Protest

All,

I just talked with Joy N and she approved the proposed course of action.

Chris T will be present at the meeting with Sen Coryn's office (Thursday). Aislinn and Chris, please get together about what we can and cannot say. Run this by me by COB Tuesday so we can discuss.

Aislinn and I will make it down to the border this weekend to provide media support. Aislinn and I will work on our travel arrangements ASAP.

**Robb**, we would like to get a tour of the Refuge, see the sights, and get briefed on the important issues prior to the event heating up on Sunday. Are you able to accommodate that on Saturday?

Regards,

--

Keenan Adams

**Acting** Assistant Regional Director - External Affairs  
August & September 2017  
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**"Maestas, Aislinn" <aislinn\_maestas@fws.gov>**

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**From:** "Maestas, Aislinn" <aislinn\_maestas@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue Aug 08 2017 12:36:32 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Adams, Keenan" <keenan\_adams@fws.gov>  
"Tincher, Chris" <chris\_tincher@fws.gov>, Kelly McDowell  
<kelly\_mcdowell@fws.gov>, Aaron Archibeque  
**CC:** <aaron\_archibeque@fws.gov>, Monica Kimbrough  
<monica\_kimbrough@fws.gov>, Robert Jess  
<robert\_jess@fws.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Plan of Action for Visit with Sen Cornyn's & The Santa Ana Protest

Good afternoon everyone. A few quick updates:

- Keenan and I have made our travel arrangements. We will be arriving in McAllen on Friday evening (8/11) and returning Sunday night (8/13). I know we expect to receive additional media inquiries through Monday, but I should be able to handle those from the RO as I have been. I believe Chris is in the process of making her travel plans for the Thurs mtg.

- I am working on TPs for the meeting with Cornyn's office. It was mentioned on my coordination call today that there may be a CBP official joining the meeting. **Rob or Kelly - can you please confirm who will be in attendance?**

- I'm working on the press packet for media. It will include the Santa Ana NWR fact sheet, our DOI-approved statement, a statement from CBP, and a list of contacts.

Please let me know if you have any additional questions/needs at this time.

Thanks,  
- Aislinn

On Mon, Aug 7, 2017 at 7:35 AM, Adams, Keenan <[keenan\\_adams@fws.gov](mailto:keenan_adams@fws.gov)> wrote:  
All,

I just talked with Joy N and she approved the proposed course of action.

Chris T will be present at the meeting with Sen Coryn's office (Thursday). Aislinn and Chris, please get together about what we can and cannot say. Run this by me by COB Tuesday so we can discuss.

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Phone: 505-248-6599  
[aislinn\\_maestas@fws.gov](mailto:aislinn_maestas@fws.gov)

---

**Kelly McDowell <kelly\_mcdowell@fws.gov>**

---

**From:** Kelly McDowell <kelly\_mcdowell@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue Aug 08 2017 13:04:28 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Maestas, Aislinn" <aislinn\_maestas@fws.gov>  
"Adams, Keenan" <keenan\_adams@fws.gov>, "Tincher, Chris" <chris\_tincher@fws.gov>, Aaron Archibeque <aaron\_archibeque@fws.gov>, Monica Kimbrough <monica\_kimbrough@fws.gov>, Robert Jess <robert\_jess@fws.gov>  
**CC:**  
**Subject:** Re: Plan of Action for Visit with Sen Cornyn's & The Santa Ana Protest

Aislinn,

Rob and I are not aware of anyone from CBP attending.

Would like Rob and I to discuss any border impacts we are coordinating with CBP on!

Thanks

Kelly

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 8, 2017, at 1:36 PM, Maestas, Aislinn <[aislinn\\_maestas@fws.gov](mailto:aislinn_maestas@fws.gov)> wrote:

Good afternoon everyone. A few quick updates:

- Keenan and I have made our travel arrangements. We will be arriving in McAllen on Friday evening (8/11) and returning Sunday night (8/13). I know we expect to receive additional media inquiries through Monday, but I should be able to handle those from the RO as I have been. I believe Chris is in the process of making her travel plans for the Thurs mtg.

- I am working on TPs for the meeting with Cornyn's office. It was mentioned on my coordination call today that there may be a CBP official joining the meeting. **Rob or Kelly - can you please confirm who will be in attendance?**

- I'm working on the press packet for media. It will include the Santa Ana NWR fact sheet, our DOI-approved statement, a statement from CBP, and a list of contacts.

Please let me know if you have any additional questions/needs at this time.

Thanks,  
- Aislinn

On Mon, Aug 7, 2017 at 7:35 AM, Adams, Keenan <[keenan\\_adams@fws.gov](mailto:keenan_adams@fws.gov)> wrote:

All,

I just talked with Joy N and she approved the proposed course of action.

Chris T will be present at the meeting with Sen Coryn's office (Thursday). Aislinn and Chris, please get together about what we can and cannot say. Run this by me by COB Tuesday so we can discuss.

Aislinn and I will make it down to the border this weekend to provide media support. Aislinn and I will work on our travel arrangements ASAP.

**Robb**, we would like to get a tour of the Refuge, see the sights, and get briefed on the important issues prior to the event heating up on Sunday. Are you able to accommodate that on Saturday?

Regards,

--

Keenan Adams

**Acting** Assistant Regional Director - External Affairs  
August & September 2017  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service - Southwest Region  
Office: 505-248-6285

*Make everything as simple as possible, but not simpler. ~Albert Einstein*

--

**Aislinn Maestas**  
Public Affairs Specialist  
External Affairs  
Southwest Region, US Fish and Wildlife Service  
Phone: 505-248-6599  
[aislinn\\_maestas@fws.gov](mailto:aislinn_maestas@fws.gov)

---

**"Maestas, Aislinn" <[aislinn\\_maestas@fws.gov](mailto:aislinn_maestas@fws.gov)>**

---

**From:** "Maestas, Aislinn" <aislinn\_maestas@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue Aug 08 2017 13:08:49 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** Chris Tincher <chris\_tincher@fws.gov>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Plan of Action for Visit with Sen Cornyn's & The Santa Ana Protest

Have you been in touch with the Senator's office? Any way you can confirm who they plan to meet with? If not, let me know and I can follow up with CBP to directly to see if they maybe have a separate meeting schedule with the Senator's office this week.

Thanks!

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

From: **Kelly McDowell** <kelly\_mcdowell@fws.gov>  
Date: Tue, Aug 8, 2017 at 1:04 PM  
Subject: Re: Plan of Action for Visit with Sen Cornyn's & The Santa Ana Protest  
To: "Maestas, Aislinn" <aislinn\_maestas@fws.gov>  
Cc: "Adams, Keenan" <keenan\_adams@fws.gov>, "Tincher, Chris" <chris\_tincher@fws.gov>, Aaron Archibeque <aaron\_archibeque@fws.gov>, Monica Kimbrough <monica\_kimbrough@fws.gov>, Robert Jess <robert\_jess@fws.gov>

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**Acting** Assistant Regional Director - External Affairs  
August & September 2017  
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Office: 505-248-6285

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External Affairs  
Southwest Region, US Fish and Wildlife Service  
Phone: 505-248-6599  
[aislinn\\_maestas@fws.gov](mailto:aislinn_maestas@fws.gov)

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External Affairs  
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Phone: 505-248-6599  
[aislinn\\_maestas@fws.gov](mailto:aislinn_maestas@fws.gov)

**"Tincher, Chris" <chris\_tincher@fws.gov>**

---

**From:** "Tincher, Chris" <chris\_tincher@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue Aug 08 2017 13:38:02 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Maestas, Aislinn" <aislinn\_maestas@fws.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Plan of Action for Visit with Sen Cornyn's & The Santa Ana Protest

I'll check.

Christine R. Tincher  
Congressional Liaison / Public Affairs Specialist  
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service - Southwest Region  
New Mexico \* Arizona \* Texas \* Oklahoma

Office: (602) 889-5954  
Mobile: (505) 449-8776  
Email: [chris\\_tincher@fws.gov](mailto:chris_tincher@fws.gov)

\*\*\*\*\*

On Tue, Aug 8, 2017 at 12:08 PM, Maestas, Aislinn <[aislinn\\_maestas@fws.gov](mailto:aislinn_maestas@fws.gov)> wrote:  
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**From:** Kelly McDowell <[kelly\\_mcdowell@fws.gov](mailto:kelly_mcdowell@fws.gov)>  
**Date:** Tue, Aug 8, 2017 at 1:04 PM  
**Subject:** Re: Plan of Action for Visit with Sen Cornyn's & The Santa Ana Protest  
**To:** "Maestas, Aislinn" <[aislinn\\_maestas@fws.gov](mailto:aislinn_maestas@fws.gov)>  
**Cc:** "Adams, Keenan" <[keenan\\_adams@fws.gov](mailto:keenan_adams@fws.gov)>, "Tincher, Chris" <[chris\\_tincher@fws.gov](mailto:chris_tincher@fws.gov)>, Aaron Archibeque <[aaron\\_archibeque@fws.gov](mailto:aaron_archibeque@fws.gov)>, Monica Kimbrough <[monica\\_kimbrough@fws.gov](mailto:monica_kimbrough@fws.gov)>, Robert Jess <[robert\\_jess@fws.gov](mailto:robert_jess@fws.gov)>

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[aislinn\\_maestas@fws.gov](mailto:aislinn_maestas@fws.gov)

# **Label: "Border Wall"**

**Created by:aislinn\_maestas@fws.gov**

Total Messages in label:361 (98 conversations)

Created: 04-12-2018 at 13:02 PM

# Conversation Contents

Public comment on Texas Tribune article on proposals to construct a wall through NWR

**"Tincher, Chris" <chris\_tincher@fws.gov>**

---

**From:** "Tincher, Chris" <chris\_tincher@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri Aug 04 2017 17:48:13 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** Aislinn Maestas <aislinn\_maestas@fws.gov>, Keenan Adams <keenan\_adams@fws.gov>, Beth Ullenberg <beth\_ullenberg@fws.gov>, Monica Kimbrough <monica\_kimbrough@fws.gov>  
**CC:** Lesli Gray <lesli\_gray@fws.gov>, Jeff Humphrey <Jeff\_Humphrey@fws.gov>  
**Subject:** Public comment on Texas Tribune article on proposals to construct a wall through NWR

FYI - HQ didn't seem to think action was needed. Please review and let me know what you think.

Note: Mr. Wayne Massengale states he wrote to the Secretary, so it is possible we may see something in DTS requesting action at a later time.

Chris

Christine R. Tincher  
Congressional Liaison / Public Affairs Specialist  
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service - Southwest Region  
New Mexico \* Arizona \* Texas \* Oklahoma

Office: (602) 889-5954  
Mobile: (505) 449-8776  
Email: [chris\\_tincher@fws.gov](mailto:chris_tincher@fws.gov)

\*\*\*\*\*

----- Forwarded message -----  
From: **Contact2, FWHQ** <[contact2@fws.gov](mailto:contact2@fws.gov)>  
Date: Mon, Jul 31, 2017 at 5:18 AM  
Subject: Fwd: New message from Contact Us form  
To: Chris Tincher <[chris\\_tincher@fws.gov](mailto:chris_tincher@fws.gov)>

Simply for your FYI, though no action seems necessary.

Regards,

Customer Service Center - Tier II

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

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

From: <[wmassengale@gmail.com](mailto:wmassengale@gmail.com)>  
Date: Fri, Jul 28, 2017 at 6:33 PM  
Subject: New message from Contact Us form  
To: [contact2@fws.gov](mailto:contact2@fws.gov)

Email submitted from Contact Us form received: 7/28/2017 16:33:16 MT  
Message ID: 7152D8B5-C917-6B08-CD0056607DEBA40F

From: [wmassengale@gmail.com](mailto:wmassengale@gmail.com)  
First Name: Wayne  
Last Name: Massengale  
State: TX  
Country: US

President Trump is carving up Texas and destroying one of our wildlife refuges! Please stop this heinous act. This isn't right for Texas. It is a waste of money, a waste of time, and it hurts our land and wildlife.

The Texas Tribune provides the details:

"U.S. Customs and Border Protection will begin constructing the first segment of President Trump's border wall in November through a national wildlife refuge, using money it's already received from Congress [...]"

"[...] The 2,088-acre Santa Ana refuge, located along the Rio Grande south of McAllen, is considered one of the nation's top bird-watching sites, with more than 400 species of birds. The refuge is also home to two endangered wildcats - the ocelot and jaguarundi - and some of the last surviving stands of sabal palm trees in South Texas.

"A wall cutting through the refuge could do serious environmental damage, Chapman said, undermining the reason Congress appropriated money to buy the land in the first place [...]"

This is not what Texans want!

I previously wrote to the Interior Secretary on or about April 5, 2017 the following: "[...] The environmental costs are unacceptable. The Rio Grande and Big Bend National Park are of incredible ecological, environmental, and National importance. In fact, the whole border allows for the swapping, migrating, pollinating, and passage of important and necessary flora and fauna between North, Central, and South America. Endangered and threatened species that once flourished in the border area, such as the mighty Jaguar and Grey Wolf, to the necessary creatures that establish the food chain like Coues' rice rat, White-nosed Coati, Monarch butterfly, to Plants such as the Ashy Dogweed, Hinckley's Oak, Nellie's Cory Cactus, and Walker's Manioc, will face an obstacle designed with such malignance that not even Man can overcome."

**"Adams, Keenan" <[keenan\\_adams@fws.gov](mailto:keenan_adams@fws.gov)>**

---

**From:** "Adams, Keenan" <keenan\_adams@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon Aug 07 2017 07:22:42 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Tincher, Chris" <chris\_tincher@fws.gov>, Aislinn Maestas <aislinn\_maestas@fws.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Public comment on Texas Tribune article on proposals to construct a wall through NWR

Who is Mr. Wayne Massengale?

On Fri, Aug 4, 2017 at 5:48 PM, Tincher, Chris <[chris\\_tincher@fws.gov](mailto:chris_tincher@fws.gov)> wrote:

FYI - HQ didn't seem to think action was needed. Please review and let me know what you think.

Note: Mr. Wayne Massengale states he wrote to the Secretary, so it is possible we may see something in DTS requesting action at a later time.

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Message ID: 7152D8B5-C917-6B08-CD0056607DEBA40F

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# **Label: "Border Fence"**

**Created by:robert\_jess@fws.gov**

Total Messages in label:672 (227 conversations)

Created: 09-29-2017 at 12:01 PM

# Conversation Contents

Santa Ana Meeting Thursday 8/10 0830

**"Castillo, Chris (Cornyn)" <Chris\_Castillo@cornyn.senate.gov>**

---

**From:** "Castillo, Chris (Cornyn)" <Chris\_Castillo@cornyn.senate.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri Aug 04 2017 09:49:58 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "robert\_jess@fws.gov" <robert\_jess@fws.gov>  
**CC:** "Garcia, Ana (Cornyn)" <Ana\_Garcia@cornyn.senate.gov>  
**Subject:** Santa Ana Meeting Thursday 8/10 0830

Good morning Robert.

It was a pleasure speaking with you a short time ago.

We will be able to meet **Thursday, August 10, 8:30AM @ Santa Ana.**

We look forward to meeting with you and discussing current developments.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely.

*Chris Castillo*

South Texas Staff Assistant  
United States Senator John Cornyn  
Senate Majority Whip  
Senate Finance-Intelligence-Judiciary Committees  
222 E Van Buren  
Harlingen, Texas 78550  
P: 956-423-0162  
F: 956-423-0193  
E: [chris\\_castillo@cornyn.senate.gov](mailto:chris_castillo@cornyn.senate.gov)

**"Jess, Robert" <robert\_jess@fws.gov>**

---

**From:** "Jess, Robert" <robert\_jess@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri Aug 04 2017 09:56:21 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** Aislinn Maestas <aislinn\_maestas@fws.gov>  
**CC:** "Harvey, Thomas" <thomas\_harvey@fws.gov>, kelly mcdowell <kelly\_mcdowell@fws.gov>, Monica Kimbrough <monica\_kimbrough@fws.gov>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Santa Ana Meeting Thursday 8/10 0830

I received a call from Senator Cornyn's office that Ana Garcia (Chief of Staff) and Chris Castillo (local staff assistant) want to meet at Santa Ana Refuge in regards to the Border Fence. I suggested higher ups and it was stated the conversation was to be with me. I have dealt with Ana Garcia on the CFT and she is supportive of the refuge and its purposes as is the Senator. They requested to meet Tuesday, August 8, at 0830. Since Kelly, Boyd and I also have a meeting with USDA and TAHC in Austin on Tuesday, I suggested Thursday August 10 at 0830 as an alternative to which an email was just sent for the date change.

I have notified Kelly of this request.

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

From: **Castillo, Chris (Cornyn)** <[Chris\\_Castillo@cornyn.senate.gov](mailto:Chris_Castillo@cornyn.senate.gov)>

Date: Fri, Aug 4, 2017 at 10:49 AM

Subject: Santa Ana Meeting Thursday 8/10 0830

To: "[robert\\_jess@fws.gov](mailto:robert_jess@fws.gov)" <[robert\\_jess@fws.gov](mailto:robert_jess@fws.gov)>

Cc: "Garcia, Ana (Cornyn)" <[Ana\\_Garcia@cornyn.senate.gov](mailto:Ana_Garcia@cornyn.senate.gov)>

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**South Texas Staff Assistant**

**United States Senator John Cornyn**

**Senate Majority Whip**

**Senate Finance-Intelligence-Judiciary Committees**

**222 E Van Buren**

**Harlingen, Texas 78550**

**P: 956-423-0162**

**F: 956-423-0193**

**E: [chris\\_castillo@cornyn.senate.gov](mailto:chris_castillo@cornyn.senate.gov)**

--

robert jess

project leader

south texas refuge complex

alamo, texas

---

**"Garcia, Ana (Cornyn)" <[Ana\\_Garcia@cornyn.senate.gov](mailto:Ana_Garcia@cornyn.senate.gov)>**

**From:** "Garcia, Ana (Cornyn)" <Ana\_Garcia@cornyn.senate.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu Aug 10 2017 06:36:01 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "robert\_jess@fws.gov" <robert\_jess@fws.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Santa Ana Meeting Thursday 8/10 0830

Good morning, Robert. I'll be running about 15-20 mins behind schedule but I'll see you shortly.

What's the best exit to take coming in from Harlingen?

Thank you,  
Ana

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone.

---

**From:** Castillo, Chris (Cornyn)  
**Sent:** Friday, August 4, 2017 10:49 AM  
**To:** </b>robert\_jess@fws.gov  
**Cc:** Garcia, Ana (Cornyn)  
**Subject:** Santa Ana Meeting Thursday 8/10 0830

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# **Label: "Border Wall"**

**Created by:aislinn\_maestas@fws.gov**

Total Messages in label:361 (98 conversations)

Created: 04-12-2018 at 13:03 PM

# Conversation Contents

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**Date:** Fri, Aug 4, 2017 at 10:49 AM  
**Subject:** Santa Ana Meeting Thursday 8/10 0830  
**To:** "[robert\\_jess@fws.gov](mailto:robert_jess@fws.gov)" <[robert\\_jess@fws.gov](mailto:robert_jess@fws.gov)>  
**Cc:** "Garcia, Ana (Cornyn)" <[Ana\\_Garcia@cornyn.senate.gov](mailto:Ana_Garcia@cornyn.senate.gov)>

Good morning Robert.

It was a pleasure speaking with you a short time ago.

We will be able to meet **Thursday, August 10, 8:30AM @ Santa Ana.**

We look forward to meeting with you and discussing current developments.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely.

***Chris Castillo***

**South Texas Staff Assistant**

**United States Senator John Cornyn**

**Senate Majority Whip**

**Senate Finance-Intelligence-Judiciary Committees**

**222 E Van Buren**

**Harlingen, Texas 78550**

**P: 956-423-0162**

**F: 956-423-0193**

**E: [chris\\_castillo@cornyn.senate.gov](mailto:chris_castillo@cornyn.senate.gov)**

--

robert jess  
project leader  
south texas refuge complex  
alamo, texas

**"Maestas, Aislinn" <[aislinn\\_maestas@fws.gov](mailto:aislinn_maestas@fws.gov)>**

---

**From:** "Maestas, Aislinn" <[aislinn\\_maestas@fws.gov](mailto:aislinn_maestas@fws.gov)>  
**Sent:** Fri Aug 04 2017 10:04:40 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** Keenan Adams <[keenan\\_adams@fws.gov](mailto:keenan_adams@fws.gov)>, Chris Tincher <[chris\\_tincher@fws.gov](mailto:chris_tincher@fws.gov)>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Santa Ana Meeting Thursday 8/10 0830

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

From: **Jess, Robert** <[robert\\_jess@fws.gov](mailto:robert_jess@fws.gov)>  
Date: Fri, Aug 4, 2017 at 9:56 AM

Subject: Fwd: Santa Ana Meeting Thursday 8/10 0830

To: Aislinn Maestas <[aislinn\\_maestas@fws.gov](mailto:aislinn_maestas@fws.gov)>

Cc: "Harvey, Thomas" <[thomas\\_harvey@fws.gov](mailto:thomas_harvey@fws.gov)>, Kelly McDowell <[kelly\\_mcdowell@fws.gov](mailto:kelly_mcdowell@fws.gov)>, Monica Kimbrough <[monica\\_kimbrough@fws.gov](mailto:monica_kimbrough@fws.gov)>

I received a call from Senator Cornyn's office that Ana Garcia (Chief of Staff) and Chris Castillo (local staff assistant) want to meet at Santa Ana Refuge in regards to the Border Fence. I suggested higher ups and it was stated the conversation was to be with me. I have dealt with Ana Garcia on the CFT and she is supportive of the refuge and its purposes as is the Senator. They requested to meet Tuesday, August 8, at 0830. Since Kelly, Boyd and I also have a meeting with USDA and TAHC in Austin on Tuesday, I suggested Thursday August 10 at 0830 as an alternative to which an email was just sent for the date change.

I have notified Kelly of this request.

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

From: **Castillo, Chris (Cornyn)** <[Chris\\_Castillo@cornyn.senate.gov](mailto:Chris_Castillo@cornyn.senate.gov)>

Date: Fri, Aug 4, 2017 at 10:49 AM

Subject: Santa Ana Meeting Thursday 8/10 0830

To: "[robert\\_jess@fws.gov](mailto:robert_jess@fws.gov)" <[robert\\_jess@fws.gov](mailto:robert_jess@fws.gov)>

Cc: "Garcia, Ana (Cornyn)" <[Ana\\_Garcia@cornyn.senate.gov](mailto:Ana_Garcia@cornyn.senate.gov)>

Good morning Robert.

It was a pleasure speaking with you a short time ago.

We will be able to meet **Thursday, August 10, 8:30AM @ Santa Ana.**

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Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely.

*Chris Castillo*

**South Texas Staff Assistant**

**United States Senator John Cornyn**

**Senate Majority Whip**

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**222 E Van Buren**

**Harlingen, Texas 78550**

**P: 956-423-0162**

**F: 956-423-0193**

**E: [chris\\_castillo@cornyn.senate.gov](mailto:chris_castillo@cornyn.senate.gov)**

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robert jess  
project leader  
south texas refuge complex  
alamo, texas

--

**Aislinn Maestas**  
Public Affairs Specialist  
External Affairs  
Southwest Region, US Fish and Wildlife Service  
Phone: 505-248-6599  
[aislinn\\_maestas@fws.gov](mailto:aislinn_maestas@fws.gov)

# **Label: "Border Wall"**

**Created by: [aislinn\\_maestas@fws.gov](mailto:aislinn_maestas@fws.gov)**

Total Messages in label: 361 (98 conversations)

Created: 04-12-2018 at 13:06 PM

# Conversation Contents

DHS waives environmental laws to speed border wall construction | TheHill

**Jeff Humphrey** <[jeff\\_humphrey@fws.gov](mailto:jeff_humphrey@fws.gov)>

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**From:** Jeff Humphrey <[jeff\\_humphrey@fws.gov](mailto:jeff_humphrey@fws.gov)>  
**Sent:** Tue Aug 01 2017 18:24:24 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** Aislinn Maestas <[aislinn\\_maestas@fws.gov](mailto:aislinn_maestas@fws.gov)>  
**CC:** Lesli Gray <[lesli\\_gray@fws.gov](mailto:lesli_gray@fws.gov)>, keenan\_adams@fws.gov, Beth Ullenberg <[beth\\_ullenberg@fws.gov](mailto:beth_ullenberg@fws.gov)>  
**Subject:** DHS waives environmental laws to speed border wall construction | TheHill

DHS' statement says: "DHS has been coordinating and consulting - and intends to continue doing so - with other federal and state resource agencies to ensure impacts to the environment, wildlife, and cultural and historic artifacts are analyzed and minimized, to the extent possible." Do we have any indication or latitude on what that means? Or do we kick questions back to "someone" at DHS? <http://thehill.com/policy/energy-environment/344772-trump-admin-waives-environmental-laws-for-border-wall-construction?amp> Sent from my iPhone

**"Maestas, Aislinn"** <[aislinn\\_maestas@fws.gov](mailto:aislinn_maestas@fws.gov)>

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**From:** "Maestas, Aislinn" <[aislinn\\_maestas@fws.gov](mailto:aislinn_maestas@fws.gov)>  
**Sent:** Wed Aug 02 2017 09:46:09 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** Jeff Humphrey <[jeff\\_humphrey@fws.gov](mailto:jeff_humphrey@fws.gov)>  
**CC:** Lesli Gray <[lesli\\_gray@fws.gov](mailto:lesli_gray@fws.gov)>, Keenan Adams <[keenan\\_adams@fws.gov](mailto:keenan_adams@fws.gov)>, Beth Ullenberg <[beth\\_ullenberg@fws.gov](mailto:beth_ullenberg@fws.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: DHS waives environmental laws to speed border wall construction | TheHill

Hi everyone. As the article states, this waiver only applies to a section of border wall construction in San Diego. DHS continues to be the lead for the waiver and all border wall activities. We should continue to use the approved statement and send inquiries to CBP.

DHS is developing Public Affairs Guidance. I will share once it is final.

Thanks,  
- Aislinn

On Tue, Aug 1, 2017 at 6:24 PM, Jeff Humphrey <[jeff\\_humphrey@fws.gov](mailto:jeff_humphrey@fws.gov)> wrote:

DHS' statement says: "DHS has been coordinating and consulting - and intends to continue doing so - with other federal and state resource agencies to ensure impacts to the environment, wildlife, and cultural and historic artifacts are analyzed and minimized, to the extent possible."

Do we have any indication or latitude on what that means?

Or do we kick questions back to "someone" at DHS?

<http://thehill.com/policy/energy-environment/344772-trump-admin-waives-environmental-laws-for-border-wall-construction?amp>

Sent from my iPhone

--

**Aislinn Maestas**  
Public Affairs Specialist  
External Affairs  
Southwest Region, US Fish and Wildlife Service  
Phone: 505-248-6599  
[aislinn\\_maestas@fws.gov](mailto:aislinn_maestas@fws.gov)

# **Label: "Border Fence"**

**Created by:robert\_jess@fws.gov**

Total Messages in label:672 (227 conversations)

Created: 09-29-2017 at 12:01 PM

# Conversation Contents

## Plan of Action for Visit with Sen Cornyn's & The Santa Ana Protest

**"Adams, Keenan" <keenan\_adams@fws.gov>**

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**From:** "Adams, Keenan" <keenan\_adams@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon Aug 07 2017 07:35:35 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** Aislinn Maestas <aislinn\_maestas@fws.gov>, "Tincher, Chris" <chris\_tincher@fws.gov>  
Kelly McDowell <kelly\_mcdowell@fws.gov>, Aaron Archibeque <aaron\_archibeque@fws.gov>, Monica Kimbrough <monica\_kimbrough@fws.gov>, Robert Jess <robert\_jess@fws.gov>  
**CC:**  
**Subject:** Plan of Action for Visit with Sen Cornyn's & The Santa Ana Protest

All,

I just talked with Joy N and she approved the proposed course of action.

Chris T will be present at the meeting with Sen Coryn's office (Thursday). Aislinn and Chris, please get together about what we can and cannot say. Run this by me by COB Tuesday so we can discuss.

Aislinn and I will make it down to the border this weekend to provide media support. Aislinn and I will work on our travel arrangements ASAP.

**Robb**, we would like to get a tour of the Refuge, see the sights, and get briefed on the important issues prior to the event heating up on Sunday. Are you able to accommodate that on Saturday?

Regards,

--

Keenan Adams

**Acting** Assistant Regional Director - External Affairs  
August & September 2017  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service - Southwest Region  
Office: 505-248-6285

*Make everything as simple as possible, but not simpler. ~Albert Einstein*

**"Maestas, Aislinn" <aislinn\_maestas@fws.gov>**

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**From:** "Maestas, Aislinn" <aislinn\_maestas@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue Aug 08 2017 12:36:32 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Adams, Keenan" <keenan\_adams@fws.gov>  
"Tincher, Chris" <chris\_tincher@fws.gov>, Kelly McDowell  
<kelly\_mcdowell@fws.gov>, Aaron Archibeque  
**CC:** <aaron\_archibeque@fws.gov>, Monica Kimbrough  
<monica\_kimbrough@fws.gov>, Robert Jess  
<robert\_jess@fws.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Plan of Action for Visit with Sen Cornyn's & The Santa Ana Protest

Good afternoon everyone. A few quick updates:

- Keenan and I have made our travel arrangements. We will be arriving in McAllen on Friday evening (8/11) and returning Sunday night (8/13). I know we expect to receive additional media inquiries through Monday, but I should be able to handle those from the RO as I have been. I believe Chris is in the process of making her travel plans for the Thurs mtg.

- I am working on TPs for the meeting with Cornyn's office. It was mentioned on my coordination call today that there may be a CBP official joining the meeting. **Rob or Kelly - can you please confirm who will be in attendance?**

- I'm working on the press packet for media. It will include the Santa Ana NWR fact sheet, our DOI-approved statement, a statement from CBP, and a list of contacts.

Please let me know if you have any additional questions/needs at this time.

Thanks,  
- Aislinn

On Mon, Aug 7, 2017 at 7:35 AM, Adams, Keenan <[keenan\\_adams@fws.gov](mailto:keenan_adams@fws.gov)> wrote:  
All,

I just talked with Joy N and she approved the proposed course of action.

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[aislinn\\_maestas@fws.gov](mailto:aislinn_maestas@fws.gov)

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**Kelly McDowell <kelly\_mcdowell@fws.gov>**

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**From:** Kelly McDowell <kelly\_mcdowell@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue Aug 08 2017 13:04:28 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Maestas, Aislinn" <aislinn\_maestas@fws.gov>  
"Adams, Keenan" <keenan\_adams@fws.gov>, "Tincher, Chris" <chris\_tincher@fws.gov>, Aaron Archibeque <aaron\_archibeque@fws.gov>, Monica Kimbrough <monica\_kimbrough@fws.gov>, Robert Jess <robert\_jess@fws.gov>  
**CC:**  
**Subject:** Re: Plan of Action for Visit with Sen Cornyn's & The Santa Ana Protest

Aislinn,

Rob and I are not aware of anyone from CBP attending.

Would like Rob and I to discuss any border impacts we are coordinating with CBP on!

Thanks

Kelly

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 8, 2017, at 1:36 PM, Maestas, Aislinn <[aislinn\\_maestas@fws.gov](mailto:aislinn_maestas@fws.gov)> wrote:

Good afternoon everyone. A few quick updates:

- Keenan and I have made our travel arrangements. We will be arriving in McAllen on Friday evening (8/11) and returning Sunday night (8/13). I know we expect to receive additional media inquiries through Monday, but I should be able to handle those from the RO as I have been. I believe Chris is in the process of making her travel plans for the Thurs mtg.

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