

**From:** [70979-69842753@requests.muckrock.com](mailto:70979-69842753@requests.muckrock.com)  
**To:** [Tiffany McClurkin](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Freedom of Information Act Request: Region 4 FWS ESA II  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 26, 2019 2:38:48 PM

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March 26, 2019

To Whom It May Concern:

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, I hereby request the following records:

I am a reporter for The Guardian and Pacific Standard magazine and I request the following records:

1. All records, including work plans, memorandums, guidances, or instructions, related to any draft environmental impacts statements, environmental impact statements, habitat conservation plans, incidental take permits or other crucial policy decisions concerning the Florida panther, an endangered species.

2. All written or electronic communications, including attachments and text messages, between Region 4 Supervisor Leo Miranda (or his executive assistants) and any person who:

i. Has, at any time since January 20, 2017, been a political appointee (including without limitation any government employee that was appointed by the President, any government employee that was appointed by the Secretary or Administrator of a federal agency, any government employee that has held a Schedule C position, or any employee who has worked in the Executive Office of the President);

ii. Has, at any time since January 20, 2017, held a position listed in any version of the document "United States Government Policy and Supporting Positions," otherwise known as the "Plum Book," whether or not the person's actual name appears in a version of the Plum Book;

iii. Whose hiring was coordinated with the Presidential Personnel Office; or

iv. Who, as a part of their job responsibilities with the Service, communicates with elected officials or their offices.

3. This request seeks communications and other records specifically concerning the Florida panther.

4. This request seeks records produced between January 20, 2017 and the date this request is processed.

#### WITHHELD DOCUMENTS

In regard to the requested records, under the FOIA Improvement Act of 2016, agencies are prohibited from denying requests for information pursuant to FOIA unless prohibited by law or the agency reasonably believes release of the information will harm an interest that is

protected  
by a FOIA exemption. 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(8)(A). Should you decide to invoke a FOIA exemption,  
please include in your response a description of which responsive documents are withheld with  
sufficient information for us to assess the basis for the exemption, including any interest(s) that  
would be harmed by their release. Please include a detailed index identifying:

1. Basic factual material about each withheld record, including the originator, date, length, general subject matter, and location of each item; and
2. Complete explanation and justification for withholding each record, including the specific exemption(s) under which the record (or portion thereof) is withheld and a full explanation of how each exemption applies to the withheld material. Such statements will be helpful in deciding whether to appeal an adverse determination and/or may help to avoid unnecessary litigation.

If you determine that portions of responsive records are exempt from disclosure, please segregate  
or redact the exempt portions and provide the non-exempt portions within the statutory time limit. 5 U.S.C. § 552(b).

The requested documents will be made available to the general public, and this request is not being made for commercial purposes.

In the event that there are fees, I would be grateful if you would inform me of the total charges in advance of fulfilling my request. I would prefer the request filled electronically, by e-mail attachment if available or CD-ROM if not.

Thank you in advance for your anticipated cooperation in this matter. I look forward to receiving your response to this request within 20 business days, as the statute requires.

Sincerely,

Jimmy Tobias

Filed via MuckRock.com

E-mail (Preferred): 70979-69842753@requests.muckrock.com

Upload documents directly: [https://www.muckrock.com/accounts/agency\\_login/us-fish-and-wildlife-service-region-4-12548/region-4-fws-esa-ii-70979/?email=foiar4%40fws.gov&uuid-login=c09dd8d5-e28d-4c26-9f38-3bb251503c50#agency-reply](https://www.muckrock.com/accounts/agency_login/us-fish-and-wildlife-service-region-4-12548/region-4-fws-esa-ii-70979/?email=foiar4%40fws.gov&uuid-login=c09dd8d5-e28d-4c26-9f38-3bb251503c50#agency-reply)

Is this email coming to the wrong contact? Something else wrong? Use the above link to let us know.

For mailed responses, please address (see note):

MuckRock News

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Somerville, MA 02144-2516

PLEASE NOTE: This request is not filed by a MuckRock staff member, but is being sent through MuckRock by the above in order to better track, share, and manage public records requests. Also note that improperly addressed (i.e., with the requester's name rather than "MuckRock News" and the department number) requests might be returned as undeliverable.