

**Re: Hillman, Matthew D shared "Pink House misconceptions and responses" with you**

Ware, Sharon &lt;sharon\_ware@fws.gov&gt;

Mon 11/20/2023 6:54 AM

To: Hillman, Matthew D &lt;matthew\_hillman@fws.gov&gt;

Hi Matt,

I'm sure you've got this, but I wanted to chime in case its helpful. This message reminds me of our call with Realty where Mark and Bill pointed out the responsibility for finding a willing seller is usually on the benefitting party in these situations, not the FWS. And of course, there's the confidentiality piece of an exchange transaction.

Sharon

Sharon Ware (she/her)  
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Parker River National Wildlife Refuge  
Newburyport, MA 01950  
Office: 978-572-5614  
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**NATIONAL  
WILDLIFE  
REFUGE SYSTEM**

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**From:** Weber, Ella M <ella\_weber@fws.gov>**Sent:** Saturday, November 18, 2023 11:56 AM**To:** Hillman, Matthew D <matthew\_hillman@fws.gov>; Sylvia, Mary K <mary\_sylvia@fws.gov>; Ware, Sharon <sharon\_ware@fws.gov>**Subject:** Re: Hillman, Matthew D shared "Pink House misconceptions and responses" with you

Just did a quick browse of the online chatter while updating the Facebook - an addition you might want to be prepared to answer:

*FWS said all options had been exhausted to save TPH, but that is not true. They've never put their specific, clear criteria out to the public to see what individuals, families, townships and even the state might have... They now say they are open to that— and FAST. So we wanted put out the call as a public service.*

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Ella Weber ([she/her](#))**Typical schedule: Tues - Sat**

Park Ranger

Visitor Services Manager

Parker River NWR Complex

978-572-5617

[www.fws.gov/refuge/parker-river](https://www.fws.gov/refuge/parker-river)

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**From:** Weber, Ella M <ella\_weber@fws.gov>

**Sent:** Friday, November 17, 2023 1:36 PM

**To:** Hillman, Matthew D <matthew\_hillman@fws.gov>; Sylvia, Mary K <mary\_sylvia@fws.gov>; Ware, Sharon <sharon\_ware@fws.gov>

**Subject:** Re: Hillman, Matthew D shared "Pink House misconceptions and responses" with you

Thanks Matt that answers my question.

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Ella Weber ([she/her](#))

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**From:** Hillman, Matthew D <matthew\_hillman@fws.gov>

**Sent:** Friday, November 17, 2023 1:00 PM

**To:** Weber, Ella M <ella\_weber@fws.gov>; Sylvia, Mary K <mary\_sylvia@fws.gov>; Ware, Sharon <sharon\_ware@fws.gov>

**Subject:** Re: Hillman, Matthew D shared "Pink House misconceptions and responses" with you

Hi Ella -- I'm not sure I fully understand the Q (which is why it's good to hash this out now as I'm sure others will be asking the same!).

The (non-binding) agreement stated that PH would pay for appraisal and surveys for the PH, and we pay the same for incoming parcel. The agreement's timeline was 2 years. We mutually agreed upon everything, so didn't *make* them do anything. The appraisal and survey of the PH would have had to happen for any exchange to be completed, regardless of how the deal was structured, and yes, it would have had to happen before the government could have affected an exchange (i.e., NOT putting cart ahead of horse).

All that said, I am asking our solicitor's office IF some or all of the PH funds could be reimbursed, just to see if it's possible as I know it's a major point of contention.

Did any of that answer your Q?

**Matt Hillman**

Refuge Manager

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## NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE SYSTEM

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**From:** Weber, Ella M <ella\_weber@fws.gov>

**Sent:** Friday, November 17, 2023 12:49 PM

**To:** Hillman, Matthew D <matthew\_hillman@fws.gov>; Sylvia, Mary K <mary\_sylvia@fws.gov>; Ware, Sharon <sharon\_ware@fws.gov>

**Subject:** Re: Hillman, Matthew D shared "Pink House misconceptions and responses" with you

Thanks Matt my only question is about this one:

3. Claiming we made them pay for any / all steps they have taken to prepare for a possible property transfer (especially in regards to zoning)

1. Our signed agreement stated that StPH would pay for the appraisal and surveys for the PH, and FWS would pay the same costs for the exchange property coming into FWS lands. FWS also paid \$3,500 for the archaeological survey and for thousands of hours of labor or staff time (managers, realty specialists, maintenance workers).

Did we *make* them pay for this on this timeline, or it's something they would have had to pay for if the land exchange were finalized re: #1 about putting the cart before the horse.

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Ella Weber ([she/her](#))

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**From:** Hillman, Matthew D <matthew\_hillman@fws.gov>

**Sent:** Friday, November 17, 2023 12:39 PM

**To:** Sylvia, Mary K <mary\_sylvia@fws.gov>; Ware, Sharon <sharon\_ware@fws.gov>; Weber, Ella M <ella\_weber@fws.gov>

**Subject:** Hillman, Matthew D shared "Pink House misconceptions and responses" with you



## Hillman, Matthew D shared a file with you

This is more for me so I have my thoughts clear for Monday's meeting, but could also be helpful to you as you may be asked similar questions (or you may be wondering the same thing!). Feel free to add to this or edit as needed.



Pink House misconceptions and responses



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