

Re: Couple of notes from today's meeting at PITA hall

Ware, Sharon <sharon_ware@fws.gov>

Mon 11/20/2023 2:47 PM

To: Hillman, Matthew D <matthew_hillman@fws.gov>

Think I would highlight the historic structure question (national vs. state/local), what the NEPA process is/isn't (am thinking about the comment that former State Rep Katie Ives made), and the importance of finding an exchange parcel that is equal in value (both ecological and appraised value). Also, I forgot to mention to you that (b) (6) came up to talk to you at the end of the meeting, but you were with someone else. He said it was pretty surprising that no one even considered the fact that tide heights are rising every year, and expected to peak in the 2030's cycle.

So, would be good to remind people that the future for the Pink House is not great in the long-term.
Sharon

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**NATIONAL
WILDLIFE
REFUGE SYSTEM**

From: Hillman, Matthew D <matthew_hillman@fws.gov>
Sent: Monday, November 20, 2023 2:36 PM
To: Ware, Sharon <sharon_ware@fws.gov>
Subject: Re: Couple of notes from today's meeting at PITA hall

Helpful, thanks!

I plan to write an op/ed today/tomorrow morning to get the most critical facts on the table. If you had to pick 2 or 3 topics/misconceptions that the broader public should know, which would they be?

Matt Hillman

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NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE SYSTEM

From: Ware, Sharon <sharon_ware@fws.gov>
Sent: Monday, November 20, 2023 2:33 PM
To: Hillman, Matthew D <matthew_hillman@fws.gov>
Subject: Couple of notes from today's meeting at PITA hall

Hi Matt,

Nice job of correcting (b) (6) 'facts' and taking all of the questions about what a land exchange would look like today - super kudos!!

Here are a few comments that struck me as things to keep in mind going forward through the NEPA process -

- Senator Tarr questions that seemed to imply a Behind the Scenes strategy that could impact the project down the road. Seemed odd that he mentioned on a couple of occasions the answer to some of these seems to have changed recently or are unclear -
 - Who makes the final decision on whether to demo the Pink House or not?
 - Equalization payment question (I think you answered this, but I thought it was interesting that he asked about this just the same)
 - Can refuge lands be transferred with Act of Congress?
 - Can appraisals be made public? This question made me think there could be a FOIA request coming
 - The Senator stated he may pursue getting the Conservation Restriction on Greenbelt properties that were originally proposed for exchange from the division within the State that holds them
- Passionate comment from (b) (6) (didn't get last name) about how preserving historic structures **are absolutely** part of the USFWS core mission. Gentleman gave a list of historic structures that FWS owns to support his comment.

Sharon

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