



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Washington D.C. 20240



January 25, 2024

Abigail Vesoulis
Mother Jones Magazine
1612 K ST NW, Unit 702
Washington, DC 20006

REF: DOI-FWS-2023-005768

Dear Ms. Vesoulis:

The United States Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) office received your request dated July 28, 2023 and assigned it tracking number DOI-FWS-2023-005768. Please cite this number in any future communications with our office regarding your request. You have requested the following:

1. Any internal memos, reports, and/or emails out of the Texas Coastal Ecological Services Field Office that reference the April 20, 2023 SpaceX launch and resulting fire. Keywords in emails/memos/reports may include but not be limited to: "fire", "explosion", "Starship," and/or "particulate matter." 2. Any emails sent from employees of US Fish and Wildlife Services' Texas Coastal Ecological Services Field Office to SpaceX employees, and any emails sent by SpaceX employees to Texas Coastal Ecological Services Field Office employees between January 1, 2023 to July 27, 2023. 3. Any emails sent to or sent from Mary Orms, Sonny Perez, Bryan Winton, and Chris Perez that mention "SpaceX," "Space X", "Starship", "Starbase", "Musk", "Elon", and/or "FAA" between January 1, 2021 to July 27, 2023. (Date Range for Record Search: From 1/1/2023 To 7/27/2023).

Response

We writing to respond to your request. We have identified thirty-five documents (155 pages) responsive to your request which are being released to you in their entirety. Please note that the records you were seeking overlap with our responses to previous FOIA requests regarding SpaceX and are publicly available on FWS FOIA Reading Room at:

<https://www.fws.gov/program/fws-freedom-information-act-foia/foia-reading-room>.

Mediation/Dispute Resolution

If after contacting us as described below, you need further information or assistance with your request, you may wish to seek dispute resolution services from the Department's FOIA Public Liaison, Natasha Jones by email at doifoiapublicliaison@sol.doi.gov.

If you need further information or assistance after contacting the Department's FOIA Public Liaison, you may wish to seek dispute resolution services from the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS). The 2007 FOIA amendments created the OGIS to offer mediation services to resolve disputes between FOIA requesters and Federal agencies as a non-exclusive alternative to litigation. Using OGIS services does not affect your right to pursue litigation. You may contact OGIS in any of the following ways:

Office of Government Information Services
National Archives and Records Administration
8601 Adelphi Road - OGIS
College Park, MD 20740-6001
E-mail: ogis@nara.gov
Web: <https://www.archives.gov/ogis>
Telephone: 202-741-5770
Fax: 202-741-5769
Toll-free: 1-877-684-6448

Please note that using OGIS services does not affect the timing of filing an appeal with the Department's FOIA & Privacy Act Appeals Officer.

Conclusion

For your information, Congress excluded three discrete categories of law enforcement and national security records from the requirements of FOIA. *See* [5 U.S.C. 552\(c\)](#). This response is limited to those records that are subject to the requirements of FOIA. This is a standard notification that is given to all our requesters and should not be taken as an indication that excluded records do, or do not, exist.

This is our final response and closes your request DOI-FWS-2023-005768. If you have any questions about our response to your request, you may contact us by email at fwhq_foia@fws.gov, or by mail at U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; ATTN: FOIA Office; 5275 Leesburg Pike; MS: IRTM; Falls Church, VA 22041.

Sincerely,

Monika Malnowicz
FWS FOIA Coordinator