



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Washington D.C. 20240



March 11, 2022

Ann K. Brown
Center for Biological Diversity
P.O. Box 11374
Portland, OR 97211-0374

Dear Ms. Brown:

This letter completes our response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request dated September 16, 2020, regarding the following:

FOIA

From July 6, 2020 to the date FWS conducts this search, the records mentioning or referencing:

1. Incidents of destruction or harm to, or the poaching or harvesting of Tiehm's buckwheat (*Eriogonum tiehmii*); or
2. Discovery of new populations of Tiehm's buckwheat.

In the letters you received from the Nevada FWS ES office the FOIA online number was provided for the Tiehm's Buckwheat eDNA which was DOI-FWS-2021-001089.

On March 11, 2022, Virginia Vu from your office indicated this FOIA has been withdrawn.

Mediation Services

The 2007 FOIA amendments created the Office of Government Information Services (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://ogis.archives.gov>
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.

OGIS serves as a bridge between requesters and agencies, particularly in situations where clear, direct communication has been lacking. You can reach OGIS by email at ogis@nara.gov, by phone at 1-877-684-6448, or by fax at (202) 741-5769.

Appeal Rights

You may appeal this response to the Department's FOIA/Privacy Act Appeals Officer. If you choose to appeal, the FOIA/Privacy Act Appeals Officer must receive your FOIA appeal **no later than 90 workdays** from the date of this letter. Appeals arriving or delivered after 5 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday, will be deemed received on the next workday.

Your appeal must be made in writing. You may submit your appeal and accompanying materials to the FOIA/Privacy Act Appeals Officer by mail, courier service, fax, or email. All communications concerning your appeal should be clearly marked with the words: "FREEDOM OF INFORMATION APPEAL." You must include an explanation of why you believe the FWS's response is in error. You must also include with your appeal copies of all correspondence between you and the FWS concerning your FOIA request, including your original FOIA request and the FWS's response. Failure to include with your appeal all correspondence between you and the FWS will result in the Department's rejection of your appeal, unless the FOIA/Privacy Act Appeals Officer determines, in the FOIA/Privacy Act Appeals Officer's sole discretion, that good cause exists to accept the defective appeal.

Please include your name and daytime telephone number (or the name and telephone number of an appropriate contact), email address and fax number (if available) in case the FOIA/Privacy Act Appeals Officer needs additional information or clarification of your appeal.

DOI FOIA/Privacy Act Appeals Office Contact Information

Department of the Interior
Office of the Solicitor
1849 C Street, N.W.
MS-6556 MIB
Washington, DC 20240
Attn: FOIA/Privacy Act Appeals Office

Telephone: 202-208-5339
Fax: 202-208-6677
Email: FOIA.Appeals@sol.doi.gov

For more information on FOIA Administrative Appeals, you may review the Department's FOIA regulations at [*43 C.F.R. Part 2, Subpart H.*](#)

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.

If you have any questions on your FOIA request, please contact me at john_declerck@fws.gov or by telephone at 503-231-2072.

Sincerely,

John De Clerck
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Headquarters FOIA Coordinator
Portland, Sacramento, Alaska