



# United States Department of the Interior

## FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

5275 Leesburg Pike, MS: IRTM  
Falls Church, VA 22041



IN REPLY REFER TO:  
DOI-FWS-2021-002539

April 7, 2021

Via email: [tsanerib@biologicaldiversity.org](mailto:tsanerib@biologicaldiversity.org)

Tanya Sanerib  
Center for Biological Diversity  
2400 NW 80th Street, #146  
Seattle, WA 98117

Dear Ms. Sanerib:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) received your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request dated February 17, 2021 and assigned it control number DOI-FWS-2021-002539. Please cite this number in any future communications with our office regarding your request.

You requested the following:

*“...records pertaining to leopards, African elephants, and African lions, or any combination of species from January 20, 2021 to whenever this request has been processed:*

*All non-detriment findings (positive or negative) or general advices made or received by USFWS for imports of sport hunted trophies or a trophy;*

*All enhancement findings (positive or negative) or advice for imports of sport hunted trophies or a trophy;*

*All permit applications submitted for ESA permits for sport hunted trophies or a trophy;*

*All permit applications submitted for CITES permits for sport hunted trophies or a trophy;*

*All FWS decisions (positive or negative) on ESA permit applications for sport hunted trophies or a trophy;*

*All FWS decisions (positive or negative) on CITES permit applications for sport hunted trophies or a trophy;*

*All FWS communications sent to applicants regarding ESA permit applications for sport hunted trophies or a trophy;*

*All FWS communications sent to applicants regarding CITES permit applications for sport hunted trophies or a trophy.”*

## **RESPONSE**

We are writing to partially respond to your request. We have enclosed one file consisting of one hundred thirty-one (131) pages, which is being released to you in its entirety.

We are continuing to search for additional records that are responsive to your request.

## **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](mailto: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.

You may seek dispute resolution services from the Acting FOIA Public Liaison, Cindy Cafaro at (888) 603-7119, who you may also seek dispute resolution services from, is available at <https://www.doi.gov/foia/foiacenters>.

Because this is an interim response to your request, we will provide notice of your appeal rights in our final response letter.

## CONCLUSION

If you have any questions, please contact Shauntá Nichols, Division of Information Resources and Technology Management, MS: IRTM, 5275 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church, Virginia 22041 (703-358-2374 or via e-mail at [shaunta\\_nichols@fws.gov](mailto:shaunta_nichols@fws.gov)).

Sincerely,

For Cathy Willis  
FWS FOIA Officer